The Middlebury Campus

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Middlebury trumps peers in fundraising

By Derek Schlickeisen
News Editor

Middlebury raised more money than any other liberal arts college in 2006, signaling a robust start to the likely $500 million Middlebury Initiative to be announced next fall. The $61.5 million total exceeded the College's fundraising goal by more than $10 million.

The year's record total gives the school a chance to help close the gap in endowment size between the College and its peer institutions, according to Dean of Planning John Emerson. Middlebury's current endowment currently stands at over $880 million. With its swift rise to fifth place in the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings of liberal arts schools, the College now finds itself in a bracket with such institutions as Williams and Amherst, whose endowments exceed $1 billion.

"Middlebury is competing head-to-head with top colleges whose endowments on a per-student basis are substantially greater than ours," Emerson said. "Given this, it is hard to overemphasize the importance of successes like [last year's]."

The current Strategic Plan calls for greater financial resources in order to support additions to the faculty and an expansion of student financial aid programs. The College is now in a pre-campaign "silent" phase of the Middlebury Initiative that has already yielded more than $200 million in pledges.

"Success in achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan is entirely dependent on our success with the Middlebury Initiative," said Emerson.

The record fundraising comes as just the latest in a string of financial triumphs for President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and his staff: the new total exceeds a previous school record of $42 million

See Funds, page 2

Donations do the trick

A $23 million pledge for providing financial aid to international students was enough to raise this year's fundraising total by more than 40 percent from last year.

Jeff Patterson

Race to the Finish

Middlebury's 84th Winter Carnival, which included social and athletic events, came to a close Saturday.

Wikipedia debate carries on

By Brian Fung
News Editor

Members of the College faculty joined students in an open forum held on Feb. 26 as part of a larger effort to discuss the role of Wikipedia in higher education. Two presentations sponsored by Ross Commons offered differing treatments of the online encyclopedia and debated the value of open-source technology in academic study. The conference represents the latest step in a campus-wide discussion ignited by the Department of History's recent ban on Wikipedia citations in essays and exams.

Assistant Professor of History Amy Morsman sought to address popular concerns that the ban was tantamount to an outright condemnation of the research tool while simultaneously defending the History Department's formal position. She suggested that though justified for broad background research, the citation of a tertiary source such as Wikipedia on major assignments was inappropriate given professors' expectations of their students' work.

"I actually think that Middlebury College students, especially History majors who are taking 300- or 400-level courses, are beyond making Wikipedia the starting point of their research," said Morsman.

Morsman went on to explain that many Wikipedia articles, or "wikis," are biased or inaccurate because

See Forum, page 4

SGA approves new fee increase

By Sarah Pickering
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) voted to increase the student activities fee to $360 for 2007-2008, up from $240 this year at its meeting on Sunday. The 50 percent increase was proposed by the SGA Finance Committee to give student organizations more money and ultimately, more opportunities and capabilities.

The Finance Committee started with a presentation about its job of budgeting, monitoring student accounts, approving requests for money, tracking loans, and much more. The presentation, delivered by Finance Committee Chair Amanda Goodwin '07, included results from a recently conducted survey that asked students where they thought money should be distributed. Of 382 respondents, most indicated their desire for increased funding for clubs, parties and concerts.

This semester, six to eight new clubs have been added to the more than 150 that already exist, according to the Finance Committee. With new clubs came the need for additional funding.

The survey also showed that students wanted smaller and more frequent parties, and concerts that are larger and more exciting, Goodwin said.

The Finance Committee also wants to enlarge its speaker fund next year, to about $20,000. The increased funds will enable the College to invite more major speakers — at least two major speakers every four years, said Goodwin. Some suggested speakers like Barack Obama and Jerry Seinfeld, according to the survey.

First-year senator Vrutika Mody '10 said she believes the process for inviting notable indivduals to campus should be simplified.

See New, page 5

Chris Heinrich

Professors and students debated the role of Wikipedia in academia.

Ilhan Kim

After unusually warm weather prevented last year's broomball season from taking off, the game has returned to McCullough lawn in force.

JC program to be overhauled

By Kerren McKeeman
Staff Writer

Beginning next year, Junior Counselors (JCs) will receive a stipend of $2,500 instead of an extra room draw housing point, according to a Feb. 26 e-mail to sophomores and juniors from Dean of the College Tim Spears. In addition, the position will be renamed "First-Year Counselor" in an effort to attract upperclassmen applicants.

Currently, most JCs are sophomores or juniors. In exchange for the mentoring they provide to first-year students, they receive an extra housing point. JCs live on first-year residence halls, serving as a social and academic resource.

The changes proposed by Spears will make the JC position similar to the current Resident Advisor (RA) position, which is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. RAs are required to act as a mentor to other students and live in upperclassman dorms. The RA does not receive housing points, but does receive a monthly stipend.

"We are all aware of the important role that JCs have played over the years," said Spears, "and we very much want to build on these successes in moving forward with these refinements."

"In making these changes," said Spears, "we are following up on recommendations that came of out of the Strategic Plan and the Human Relations Committee report." Commons Heads and Commons Deans have also been instrumental in providing feedback that has contributed to the proposed changes to the JC position.

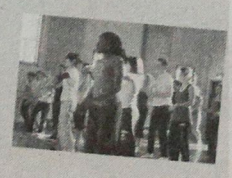
The switch to a stipend-based

See JC stipend, page 4

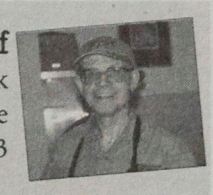
this week

fat tuesday in VT
15,000 gather at Magic Hat Brewery to celebrate Mardi Gras in style, page 6

get jiggy with it
Movement artist teaches students about diversity through hip-hop dancing, page 16



meet the staff
Get to know the people who work behind the scenes to keep the College running, page 13



middbriefs

Alicia Taylor, Colin Foss & Nick Alexander

Gargeya, Stephens, Nardini win SGA elections

In the Student Government Association (SGA) elections held last week, Ashwin Gargeya '08 took the Junior Half-Year Senator position, Emily Stephens '10.5 became the Feb Senator and Max Nardini '08 was elected Wonnacott Commons Senator.

According to Gargeya, the new Junior Half-Year Senator, "small changes...will let the school truly be a reflection of us."

Stephens pledged to focus on "defining common goals, building group unity, and forging an identity… [within] the Middlebury community."

Nardini, who represented the Class of 2008 as a Senator last year, promised to lobby for a carbon-neutral campus, to continue Public Safety's "blue light" initiative and to make student opinions and priorities heard in SGA policy.

The SGA said it would release final vote tallies later this week.

Feminist group unhappy with blue light initiative

Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM) is dissatisfied with the College's proposed program to increase the number of blue lights, emergency phones and lighting on certain paths on campus, according to some group members. Elizabeth Lyon '07, a participant in the dialogue concerning the Public Safety initiative and a member of FAM, expressed optimism about the College's plans but remained upset with the speed at which they are being implemented.

"It is still not clear to me," said Lyon, "why it has taken so long for [the administration] to demonstrate [its] concern for the safety of our students."

Lyon also questioned the value of a program that may be aiming in the wrong direction, suggesting that the Public Safety initiative requires a larger scope.

"Most violence and sexual assault does not happen on unlit paths," she said. "It happens in dorm rooms."

FAM would like to see more money allocated to safety education, which would head off safety threats before they occur and preclude the need for emergency phones, according to Lyon.

Administration reaches Strategic Plan targets

According to a report drafted this month by Dean of Planning John Emerson, the College administration has made progress regarding the objectives stipulated in its Strategic Plan, Knowledge Without Boundaries.

To lure top applicants, the Office of Admissions has implemented a new academic rating system and introduced a policy of reduced loan expectations for Early Decision students, according to Emerson.

A new Chinese graduate program will be introduced this summer, and Middlebury's new language school in Arabic will open this September in Alexandria, Egypt. To promote student unity and to attract influential speakers, a college-wide convocation series is scheduled for March 3rd with Rwandan hero, Paul Rusesabagina, as its star orator.

To ease transportation difficulties for staff members, the college has assisted Addicson County Transit Resources (ACTR) in creating a new bus route between Middlebury, Brandon and Rutland.

Corrections

An article on Feb. 20, "Top applicants to get free visit," incorrectly stated the number of prospective students expected to come to campus. The expected number is actually 50 to 60, not 15.

An article on Feb. 20, "Students alerted to Tavern assault," mistakenly referred to Brackett House as Tavern.

The Campus regrets these errors.

Reaction to Feb scaleback mixed

By Tom Brant
News Editor

When Dean of Admissions Robert Clagett took the floor for questions at last week's faculty meeting, one professor raised his hand to ask about the scaleback of the College's February (Feb) admissions program. Specifically, the professor asked, is the program being scaled back to zero?

While administrators have insisted that the Feb program will continue to operate with fewer students in coming years, faculty members have expressed skepticism over whether it could or should be preserved.

"I'm really of two minds about the program," said Kevin Moss, chair of the Russian Department. "On one hand, Febs who want to be Russian majors are really screwed, since they can't start Russian until the fall semester. The only good solution is for a Feb to take not one, but two summers of Russian School, which even I think is excessive."

Stephen Snyder, chair of the Japanese Department, also noted that starting in February can be difficult for students who want to study language.

"Virtually no one starts Japanese off term," he said.

By offering Febs a choice, those who want to study languages with beginning courses offered only in the fall would have an easier time of learning the language.

At the same time, Moss thinks that the Feb program offers students a unique advantage.

"I appreciate students who have taken some kind of break before college and done something interesting, as opposed to just falling into the lockstep sequence of high school, college, grad school, etc.," he said. "We don't have many non-traditional students at Middlebury, and Febs are kind of non-traditional because of that semester."

Following the recommendations outlined in the Strategic Plan, the College will make the February admissions program optional for first-year students, a move already visible in this year's Feb Class and one that will help lower the number of Febs over a three or four-year period.

The change means that potential Febs who were not offered the choice of when to matriculate in the past will now have to make a decision: should they wait six months and use the opportunity to take a semester off, or should they matriculate in the fall, when they can more easily take courses in the sequence required for a particular major?

The Feb program no longer offers a structural benefit to the College, though it may offer personal benefit to individual students.
—Strategic Plan

According to Alison Byerly, vice president for academic affairs, the main goal of the change was to offer Febs the choice, though it will also mean a reduction in the size of the Feb class.

"I think the recommendation in the Strategic Plan that we work towards reducing the Feb program reflects a desire to make it completely voluntary," she wrote in an e-mail. "Students who would like to defer a semester can begin midyear, but students who might otherwise have to wait until February [can be] admitted as part of the class entering in September."

The administration hopes that once offered a choice, most prospective students who would have been admitted as Febs will opt to matriculate in the fall, because the program "no longer offers a structural benefit to the College, though it may offer personal benefit to individual students," according to the Strategic Plan. Eventually, the number of Febs is expected to fall to between 60 and 70 students, down from around 110 in the past five years.

Other faculty members, including those in some foreign language departments, expressed their equivocation about offering Febs a choice.

With the Feb program becoming optional, Byerly pointed out that the college may seek to make a distinction between students who started in February and those who started in September.

"I suppose it's possible that over time, if the number of February admits becomes smaller, we might stop describing it as a distinctive program, and might eventually have a process for midyear admission that is not very different from the way in which transfer students are handled here and at other institutions," she wrote.

For now, though, those who chose to start in February will continue to be called Febs. The College hopes that after having chosen this option instead of simply being notified by the Office of Admissions of their Feb status, February matriculants will be more content, according to Associate Dean of Admissions Karen Guttentag.

"Only designating as Febs those students who deliberately select that experience should make for a high level of Feb satisfaction," she said.

RIAA cracks down on MP3 piracy

By George Heinrichs
Staff Writer

In recent years, colleges and universities across the country, including Middlebury, have been under siege by the music, television and film industries because of the use of their servers by students to illegally share files. In order to fight back against illegal downloading, some institutions have developed policies to prevent its spread on campus in order to protect both students and the institution.

According to Jeffrey R. Rehbach, the Designated Middlebury Copyright Agent, the music industry has "crawlers" looking for illegally shared files in specific networks, including Middlebury's. When the crawlers find an illegal download, an e-mail is sent by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) to the College indicating the file shared, the time it was shared, the method of sharing and the user's IP address. If the e-mail is received within 24 hours of the activity, Rehbach then sends an e-mail to the current user of the IP address. The e-mail asks the user to "please check [their] computer to make sure it is not set up to share any copyrighted files over the Internet." It also tells the user how he or she can contact Rehbach or respond to a false accusation.

According to Rehbach, users may not even be aware they were sharing the file. If an individual is cited more than once by the RIAA, and he or she does not respond to the e-mail sent by the College, local Internet access is cut off in order to induce a response. By copyright law, the College has to inquire into any reported act of illegal file sharing, but as a service provider, it is also protected against lawsuits by the property holders.

While the College does try to stop illegal downloading where it can, it does not limit bandwidth, or try to stop the downloading of large files. Rehbach said that it is nearly impossible to tell legal from illegal downloads, and that it is more important for an intellectual institution to enable students to download what they need, rather than to make sure students are downloading what they should.

To ensure that academic and administrative activities receive priority over other traffic, the College utilizes traffic shaping on its computer network, a common practice among service providers. Traffic shaping became necessary after the rise of file sharing in the late 1990s.

"It was done in order to better restrict, not with the purpose of eliminating, but to prioritize," Rehbach said.

In the past few years the number of notices received by the College has varied. Forty notifications have been issued since September 2006, while 20 were issued in the last academic year (2005-2006). Seventy notifications were received in spring 2004, and during one period four years ago, as many as 10 notifications were issued per week. The offended parties change from year to year, and includes music studios and television networks. Most of the 20 complaints filed last year were from HBO concerning illegally shared TV shows.

Rehbach said that the introduction of a free Napster service provided to students in a deal between the College and Napster reached three years ago, along with the rise of iTunes and other legal file-sharing services has contributed to the drop in notifications over the past several years.

In an informal student survey conducted by *The Middlebury Campus*, 32 out of 70 students admitted to using illegal file sharing services, including Soulseek and uTorrent. Services like these are used to download as many as 243 million illegal files a month, according to Music United, an organization of many of the top recording firms and music associations. In the student survey, over 80 percent of those asked used iTunes. New software is being introduced, including Audible Magic, that can sort through ownership rights of material being shared and can prevent illegal sharing of owned material, without stopping the downloading of public material.

For many Middlebury students, the main concern is simply getting the music or movie downloaded. The end of the College's free Napster service may make this more difficult. One student, who requested that his name not be used, said "well, I just hope I stay connected long enough to finish getting that movie."

Funds allocated for financial aid, faculty

Continued from page 1

in 2005, and growth in the College's endowment has surpassed expectations for three years running.

"We also count on a particular rate of return on the endowment each year (nine percent) to support the operating budget," said Liebowitz, "and if the return on our endowment is less than the nine percent for a given year, the higher fundraising helps fill the gap."

A $23 million gift from philanthropist Shelby Davis helped put the College over the top, edging out Wellesley College by nearly $6 million. With high hopes for continued success in coming years, Liebowitz gave special credit to Davis.

"Our financial model calls for slightly less than $50 million in cash per year over the next few years," said Liebowitz. "Those are big totals, so the $61.5 million exceeded what we set as a goal and we are delighted. Then again, it is not every day when a college of our size gets a $23 million gift."

The gift from Davis, whose family also funds the United World College Davis Scholars program headquartered at the College, is reserved entirely for financial aid given to international students. The Davis Scholars program brings 800 international students to U.S. colleges each year, including approximately 95 to Middlebury.

"Strengthened financial aid is the very highest priority in the Strategic Plan," said Emerson, "so the Davis gift is critically important and especially welcomed."

Courting admits not uncommon

By Anthony Adragna
Staff Writer

Following an announcement at last week's faculty meeting that the College would provide free trips to campus for highly qualified applicants, the Office of Admission explained how the program would benefit Middlebury, and said that free visits are already offered at a number of other shcools.

Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett said the College's offer of a trip to campus is a relatively common program.

"Many colleges have these programs," he said. "Carleton does and so do other colleges that are a little farther away from major metropolitan areas, like Middlebury, so it's not at all unusual. It's actually been going on for quite a while."

Dean of Admissions at Hamilton College Monica Inzer said her school does not have a formal program like Middlebury's but does occasionally offer students trips to campus.

"There are times that the Hamilton Admission Office offers 'travel scholarships' for select groups to come to visit our campus — sometimes to decide whether or not to apply, and sometimes for targeted admitted groups," she wrote in an e-mail. "We assess our needs each year and make decisions according to our enrollment priorities."

Cliff Thornton, associate dean of admisson at Wesleyan University, said his office regularly pays for students to visit campus. Every spring, Wesleyan invites around 50 students to its campus, and in the fall, around 100.

"We look for students that are outside the Northeast, haven't visited the university and had no direct contact with us," Thornton said. "We've been doing it for almost two decades."

The College will send letters offering roughly 100 of its most highly qualified applicants a free trip to campus this spring in the hope of encouraging the applicants to matriculate, according to Clagett. He hopes that the College's offer will draw between 50 and 60 students to campus, with the ultimate goal of convincing 30 or more to attend. The College identified the students who would receive the offer through a committee process.

"As we're reading folders we have various indicators to try and identify the very top students," Clagett said. "There were about 200 students who got that indicator. A week and a half ago we went through those names and selected those 101 who would get those letters. The students who received these excel academically but they also tended to have extracurricular talents that we're looking for — and excellent personal qualities of course."

File Photo/Lizzy Zevallos

Student employees at the Office of Admissions help sort through application files to help admissions officers select 101 top applicants for an all-expenses paid trip to visit the College.

Clagett said many of the students are considering Middlebury among other prestigious universities, including Ivy League schools.

"No question about it, they are potential Ivy League students," he said. "We think that in terms of the quality of the educational experience, Middlebury is comparable. We want to show them that."

Clagett pointed out that offering prospective trips to students has become necessary due to the nature of the application process.

"We fear the college selection process has become a far less thoughtful process," Clagett said. "They may not be thinking, 'What college is the best fit for me?' We want to make sure that they've gone through that thoughtful process. We think that if they see Midd that more will actually be attracted here."

Clagett said the trips will have no financial effect on current students.

"There is zero financial impact on students," he said. "When we had the Strategic Plan last year, the President set up a fund to help fund aspects of the Strategic Plan, including attracting highly qualified students."

While the cost of trips will vary, Clagett said the program will cost less than one normal scholarship to fund. "It's not costing the College that much," he said. "We'd estimate that it will run $400 to $500 per student. For someone from Boston it won't be much; for someone from San Francisco [will be] a little more."

Inzer said she supports Middlebury's program. "I have enormous respect for Bob Clagett and I know that he would only pursue initiatives that are in the best interest of the College and [its] students," she said.

Clagett stressed that the College did not wish to change the composition of the student body. "These tend to be the strongest academic applicants in the pool but they also have the strong extracurricular and personal qualities," he said. "These are the most sought after students in the country so we want to make sure Midd is on their radar screen."

Students petition for Korean dept.

By Sara Black
Staff Writer

A grassroots student initiative promoting the foundation of a Korean language program at the College was launched last week. In a campus-wide e-mail, Ilhan Kim '07 outlined the first stage of a campaign to garner support for his movement: a petition.

"I would like to set in motion plans to incorporate the Korean language into Middlebury's academic curriculum," he announced in the e-mail, which contained a link to an online petition that has received over 500 signatures.

"If you look at the petition, a lot of the names aren't just Asian names," said Kim in an interview. "A lot of non-Asians are also supporting the petition. They see the benefit of this initiative as a way of encouraging the administration to continue expanding its language program."

Kim said he noticed the absence of a Korean language program at the College upon his initial arrival as a first-year student, but said it did not occur to him to promote the change he wanted to see until recently.

"I believe this school needs to not just rest on its laurels, but actively search for other languages that are critically needed in this world," said Kim. "Middlebury shouldn't wait for these languages to be available elsewhere, but should really step up to the plate and be very proactive about starting new language programs."

Demand for fluency in the Korean language has grown as Korea emerges as a world power. In recent years, Korea has made a home in the global economy with such commercial giants as Samsung, LG Electronics, Hyundai Motor Group and Helio. The conflict between South and North Korea has also slowly been evolving into a political vortex, making Korean a more prominent language on the global stage.

Enrollment in Korean language programs at institutions of higher education in the United States increased by 16.3 percent between 1998 and 2002, according to a 2002 survey conducted by the Modern Language Association. However, the increase in Korean language students was not as significant as the rise during the same period seen by other languages the College has debated adding to the curriculum such as Modern Hebrew, which will be offered as a language course beginning in Fall 2007.

The prominence of the Korean language on the worldwide scale has also prompted the College to explore its inclusion in the Summer Language Schools.

"Korean is definitely one of the languages that has been considered for introduction to the Language Schools in the past, along with a number of others" said Michael Geisler, dean of Language Schools and Schools Abroad. "If you were to introduce Korean right now, the numbers are telling us the constituent base isn't there for a language school."

Andrea Bolivar '10, currently a student of Chinese at the College, expressed interest in a Korean language program.

"There is so much going on in Korea now that is historically imperative," said Bolivar, "and I would like to be able to understand and experience Korea more fully."

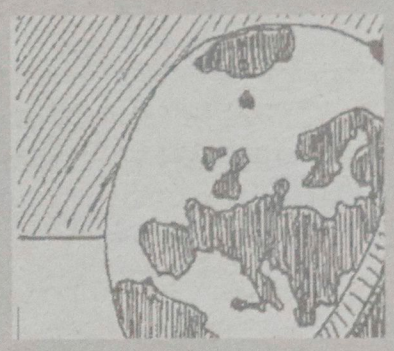
According to Kim, the College is home to a sizeable group of Korean-American students, many of whom have lost touch with their culture and want to reconnect with their language and heritage. There are also many Koreans who were adopted at birth and want to learn more about their birth country in an effort to find their own identity.

"When Korea's cultural influence throughout Asia is so defined and prominent to spawn the creation of the term hallyu [Korean Wave]," Kim said, "Middlebury College should take notice. When Kim Jong-Il fires off nuclear missiles on the Fourth of July, Middlebury College should take notice."

DongHee Janet Kang '10, founder of a club at the College named "Midd on the Globe," has also found the nine languages of the Middlebury language department limiting and wanting in variety. In response, Kang has created a club to bring students fluent in variety of languages together with students who want to learn about language and culture.

"I've met a lot of international students who want to express their culture and teach their language to a lot of people and there is basically no outlet for that," said Kang. "I'm hoping that through this club students can not only express their language, but also their culture."

Additional reporting by Zamir Ahmed



overseas briefing

Dancing your pain away

by Dina Magaril

Getting robbed at gunpoint is some awful story you hear happen to one in a million people, but unfortunately, I was left to experience this first hand my first Friday night in Buenos Aires. After trying to get over the lack of feminist response in this city — I'm referring to the constant catcalling and pick up lines thrown at women the moment they step out the door — I was recently faced with the other, much uglier side of a masochistic culture.

This past Friday night, at around 4 in the morning whenb I was just two blocks from the house where I am staying, I was approached by two young men, shown a gun, forced to give up my purse and had two necklaces ripped off my neck. My lack of comprehension of street slang did not help the situation, as my assaulters took my inability to understand what was asked as my refusal to cooperate and earned me a smack in the head with the butt of a gun. As I lay behind the car where I was robbed I promised myself that in the future I would only take taxis home after 11 p.m.

But Buenos Aires is a city you cannot stay mad at for long. The day after my assault and robbery, my host family took me to the festival of *Albahaca* (basil) commemorating the end of Carnivale.

It may not match the wild stories people bring back from Rio, but this festival had an energy that was comparable to any large Latin American fiesta. Tables lined with *cervezas* by the liter surrounded the stage, where a singer belted out traditional indigenous songs. After a short break, the tables were moved and the real party began. Men and women adorned themselves — and innocent bystanders — with bags of flour and others sprayed shaving cream into the air. Though the shaving cream seemed to be someone's ingenious idea, the throwing of flour is a tradition practiced to commemorate the end of Carnivale.

The crowd formed mamba lines, and people danced their flour soaked selves around the tables. Once the band struck a familiar note, the women lined up to one side, the men to the other, to participate in a dance that involved a lot of snapping and hip-shaking and whose name I cannot remember.

Not wanting to refuse the old man who asked me if I *quiere bailar*, I tried my hand at improvisation and snapped it up with the rest of them. Needless to say, after a few more liters I was really getting the hang of it.

At around 6 a.m., after witnessing my first Argentine sunrise, tired and covered in shaving cream, we took a bus home which, to my surprise, was packed with high school students returning from their wild night out. Also of note, girls below the age of consent in Buenos Aires sure do not dress accordingly — they don outfits I have only previously seen in Christina Aguilera videos.

As I collapsed into bed, only a few blocks from my mugging, I could not seem to reconcile the variety of events I had experienced in just one weekend. But at 6 a.m., with a hangover canceling out the beating I took the night before, it's hard to rationalize anything, except that I sure was ready to give this city another chance.

college shorts

by Tom Brant and Brian Fung

Union Institute to sell Montpelier campus

Union Institute & University has announced plans to sell its Montpelier campus to the recently formed Vermont College of Fine Arts, the Associated Press reported Monday.

Union Institute acquired the 34-acre campus overlooking downtown Montpelier from Norwich University in 2001, and operated it primarily as an undergraduate residential campus. The decision to sell came after Union Institute, a nationwide distance-learning network, decided to focus on its adult degree programs.

Under the terms of the sale, the Vermont College of Fine Arts will own the campus's 11 buildings, as well as master's degree programs in fine arts, writing and visual arts. Union Institute will lease space from Vermont College, continuing to operate its undergraduate and master's programs in education on the campus.

"We are gratified that our investments in the buildings, the campus, the programs, and the people have given birth to the new and promising entity of the Vermont College of Fine Arts," said Union President Roger H. Sublett in a statement.

—Burlington Free Press

Boston College student charged in stabbing

A female Boston College student pleaded not guilty Monday on charges of stabbing another woman in a campus dormitory, the *Associated Press* reported.

Brianna Jones, 19, was arrested on Friday night after Boston police received a call that two students were fighting in the college's Vanderslice Hall.

The victim was apparently stabbed under her lung and was hospitalized for a puncture wound. The injury is non-life threatening.

Jones was suspended from school pending the outcome of the criminal case, as per college policy.

"It's university policy to issue a summary suspension if the student's alleged actions are considered a threat to the community," Dunn told the *AP*.

—Boston Herald

Stanford gets $75 million from Yahoo co-founder

Stanford University graduate and Yahoo Inc. co-founder Jerry Yang has pledged $75 million in donation money to his alma mater. The sum, to be paid over the course of several years, will help fund the construction of a number of new facilities on the Stanford campus.

$50 million of Yang's $75 million donation will contribute to a new energy and environmental studies building. An additional $5 million will be given to the university's medical school for the construction of a doctor training facility. The remaining $20 million will be reserved for future use.

A September 2006 Forbes magazine report placed Yang's net worth at $2.4 billion last year. Yang will be making his donation in conjunction with his wife and fellow Stanford graduate, Akiko Yamazaki.

Alumni donations to Stanford have jumped more than 50 percent over the last year, from $603 million to $911 million.

The $911 million raised by Stanford in 2006 was the most ever raised by a U.S. university. Total donations to Stanford last year were well ahead of the next highest amount, raised by Harvard University, which raised $595 million. Yale University was third with total donations totaling $433.5 million.

—CNN.com

Forum held to discuss new policy

Continued from page 1

of the Web site's fluidity and apparent lack of oversight. In certain cases, competing Wikipedia contributors have edited and re-edited the same document countless times in an effort to have the final say over a wiki's content.

To prove her point, Morsman introduced a video clip of the popular late-night comedy, "The Colbert Report," in which satirical television news anchor Stephen Colbert coined the term "wikilobbying." Colbert described wikilobbying as a war of information between two parties, each trying through open-source Web sites to convince the public of the truth of their particular versions of reality—regardless of their accuracy.

"[This is] more proof of what happens when you bring democracy to information," said Colbert, during the clip. "Open-source software is like free trade, and the invisible hand of the market has the mouse now."

Jason Mittell, assistant professor of American Studies and Film and Media Culture, disagreed about the nature of open-source software, arguing in his own presentation that coordinated contributors can in fact produce a product as good as, or in some cases better than, the traditional bound encyclopedia.

"It's only as good as its users," said Mittell, "but there are enough users that will take what they read [from more formal sources] and put it on. If you are an invested volunteer, of which there are thousands, you will provide immediate oversight and review."

According to Mittell, who has helped to write entries for print encyclopedias in the past, the editing process for such articles often consists of one expert author and an editor who may only be somewhat knowledgeable about the topic in question. By contrast, he said, Wikipedia provides "transparent and explicit" information about standards for research-gathering and the subsequent processes of writing and editing wikis.

Open-source software is like free trade, and the invisible hand of the market has the mouse now.

—Stephen Colbert

In addition to his defense of Wikipedia, Mittell also asked for clarification from the History Department regarding its policy. He suggested that it was unclear as to whether the ban on Wikipedia citations was prompted by the way in which information was compiled on the site, or whether it was merely a reaction to the tool's nature as a tertiary source.

"When you have any critical dialogue about the site," said Mittell, "you have to understand [...] whether your attitude is formed by the 'wiki-' part, or by the '-pedia' part."

A number of faculty members present at the forum responded to both speakers. Many of those who contributed to the discussion were largely supportive of the History Department's new policy, and advocated the use of discretion when conducting online research.

"The mantra is, 'be critical of what you use, validate it, and know what the context is," said Louisa Burnham, assistant professor of History at the College.

Some suggested that middle- and high-school teachers may be routinely directing their students to Wikipedia for projects and essays, thereby sending the message that such resources are acceptable academic research tools. Now, however, it seems as though some members of the College faculty hope to raise awareness about the potential pitfalls of Wikipedia as news of the History Department's resolution spreads to the national level with high-profile coverage on blogs and in the *New York Times*.

JC stipend to replace housing points

Continued from page 1

First-Year Counselor position is part of a College effort to attract senior applicants who would not benefit from a housing point at the end of their college careers.

"We obviously need to offer more than Commons points," said Spears, "hence the move to stipends."

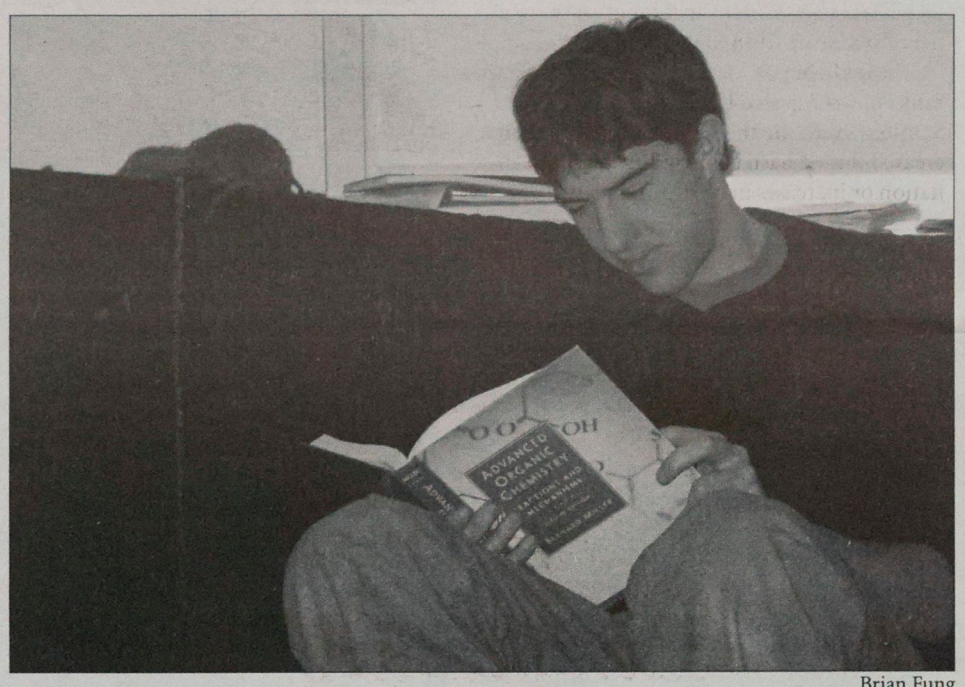
According to Brainerd Commons Resident Advisor (CRA) Melissa Simpson, the proposed changes may eliminate advantages enjoyed by current JCs.

"JCs are close in age to the first-years," said Simpson, "and JCs can then maintain friendships and act as role models to the [first-years] for the next two years." If First-Year Counselor seniors live in [first-year] halls, "this defeats the purpose of senior housing," said Simpson.

Transforming the JC position into a paid job may create other drawbacks, according to Becca Marcus '07.5, who believes that instituting a stipend may motivate people to volunteer for the money, instead of participating in order to meet and mentor first-years.

"It may be hard for hired students to stay motivated throughout the year," said Marcus, "if they know that the $2,500 will come into their pockets regardless of the amount of hours they put in."

Emily Eliot '07.5 said she appreciated the need for interaction between upperclassmen and first-years, but that such interaction should take place in other venues.



Brian Fung

Sam Shoutis '08 is a JC for Brainerd Commons. JCs will lose their housing advantage next year.

"If the goal is to expose [first-years] to seniors who have come back from study abroad, then this is not right way to go about it," said Eliot. "[That exchange] should take place in other venues or other programs," said Eliot, " and should not be included in the First-Year Counselor program."

Additional adjustments to the current JC position will include changes to the orientation period that takes place during the week prior to the beginning of Fall semester.

"First-Year Counselors will receive additional preparation [and] training," said Spears, "so that they can help support the academic growth of first-year students."

The proposed alterations to the JC positions will not affect those who currently hold JC positions this academic year.

"Current JCs will be able to use their Commons points in drawing a room for next year," said Spears.

public safety log

February 20 - February 26, 2007

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/21/2007	6:30 a.m.	Internet Fraud	Money Orders	Battell	Open
2/22/2007	1:15 p.m.	Theft	Cash	Forest	No suspects
2/22/2007	6:30 p.m.	Theft	Stolen Wallet	Athletics Complex	Referred to MPD
2/22/2007	10:40 p.m.	Vandalism	Wall Lamp	Miliken	No Suspects
2/22/2007	Unknown	Theft	iPod Mini, speaker, 2 bottles of liquor	Atwater Hall B	No Suspects
2/23/2007	1:55 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Construction Site	Starr Library	Referred to Commons Dean
2/23/2007	11:09 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
2/23/2007	Unknown	Theft from Vehicle	Stereo	R lot	Referred to MPD
2/23/2007	2:55 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	—	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
2/23/2007	9:30 p.m.	Theft	iPod	Library	Referred to MPD
2/23/2007	9:30 p.m.	Vandalism	Floor Buffer and Cleaner	Ross	Referred to Commons Dean
2/25/2007	12:39 a.m.	Vandalism	Table and Stove	Prescott (ADP)	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 11 alcohol citations between Feb. 20 and Feb. 26.

New fee to fund student orgs, speaker visits

Continued from page 1

"I think what the committee was trying to do was trying to figure out where to put the money for concerts," she said. Mody believes that the number and frequency of concerts can affect attendance.

"Right now you've got SGA doing concerts and you've got MCAB doing concerts and then you've got the Commons doing concerts....if you want outside people to come, it's expensive, so what's the use of having this kind of spread-out system?"

The Finance Committee is also in the process of creating a new website. Asked about the site, SGA president Alex Stanton '07 said that it will "give students a better understanding of how their money is used." The site is part of the of the Finance Committee's goal to be more transparent and better communicate with students.

In addition to increased transparency, the Finance Committee is also focusing on increasing their financial flexibility, according to Stanton. They created three new "flex finds" which will provide money for parties and social life, concerts, and speakers. Stanton said that students will be able to apply for these funds if they have a specific idea about bringing a party, concert or speaker to campus.

The SGA voted unanimously to increase the Student Activities Fee (SAF) from $240 to $360 next year, meaning that overall Student Activities funding will go from $564,000 to $846,000. This amount will increase over the next three years to $490 in 2009.

"Middlebury's Student Activities Fee ranks low compared to our peer institutions," Stanton said. "In the past, the SAF has increased, but it hasn't nearly kept up with inflation or increases in the Comprehensive Fee. The increase to $360 for [next year] will put us in the middle of the pack compared to our peer institutions and ensure that we can fully fund all student organizations." The increase will have to be approved by next year's SGA, though Stanton says "I fully expect that [increase] to happen".

The College's SAF was in the lower one-third among fees at other colleges until this recent adjustment, according to Mody.

"We hadn't increased the SAF in a really long time, and so the increase was pretty much making up for that," Mody said. The SAF has to be increased every so often because of inflation and the addition of new student organizations.

This means, Mody continued, that the College will not have to "scramble for money to bring to people on campus, you can go straight to the Commons and ask for money". The College's social life, student clubs and individuals will benefit from the increase of the SAF as they now have more obtainable funding.

Cleaning house...

Ilhan Kim

Addressing the Community Council on Feb. 26, Director of Campus Activities and Leadership Doug Adams discusses the annual review of campus social houses. Conducted by the Subcommittee on Social and Academic Interest Houses, the review evaluates five different aspects of the houses — compliance with previous years' stipulations, occupancy issues, observance of College policy, verification of adherence to the social house's mission statement and community outreach — to determine their standing for the 2007-2008 year. The subcommittee and the Council will form recommendations for the approval of the social houses. The reviews will be published in coming weeks, followed by the Council's subsequent recommendations.

— H. Kay Merriman

The Middlebury Campus

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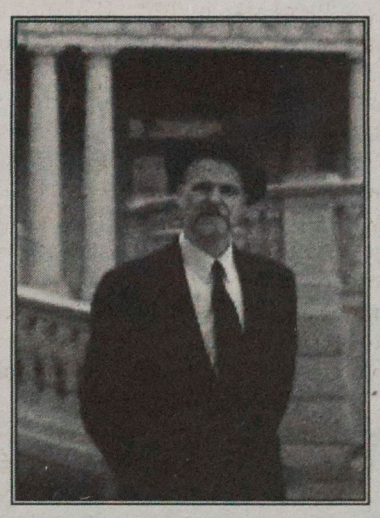
TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS EXPLORED

"Voices from the New American Schoolhouse"



Filmmaker Danny Mydlack presents his candid and unblinking encounter with kid-powered learning. Narrated exclusively by students, the film chronicles life and learning at the Fairhaven School in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, which practices an undiluted form of freedom and democracy that turns mainstream education theory on its head.

Tuesday, March 6
4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Twilight Auditorium and Twilight 201
(for 7 p.m. screening)

"What Do We Stand For? Searching for a Vision for Our Schools"

A panel discussion led by Professor Jonathan Miller-Lane with Danny Mydlack and representatives from local independent schools as they explore the topic.

Wednesday, March 7 4:30 p.m.
Twilight Auditorium

For more information, contact Teacher Education Program Coordinator
Trish Dougherty at 802-443-5013 or pdougher@middlebury.edu.

B-Town tips its hat to Mardi Gras

By Andrea Glaessner
Local news editor

The notoriety associated with Mardi Gras in the United States has given the pre-Lenten holiday a bad rep to say the least. Tales of debauchery, lewd conduct and women flashing their assets up and down Bourbon Street have made the annual event in New Orleans an X-rated affair and certainly no place for children. But a little farther north in Burlington, Vt. Mardi Gras is done a little differently and is a lot more wholesome.

On Saturday, Feb. 24, over 15,000 students, kids, parents and seniors turned out to celebrate the annual Magic Hat Brewery Mardi Gras Parade. The event had been postponed from Feb. 17 due to massive amounts of snow that had to be cleared after the history-making Valentine's Day blizzard. But thousands turned out on the rescheduled date, decked in beads, smiles and snow boots nonetheless.

Unlike its sister party down South, the size and scale of the event is manageable and engaging for all sorts of parade and partygoers.

More importantly, the event has a truly respectable undertaking aside from the traditional Catholic mission of Mardi Gras which entails getting loaded before a 40-day period of mourning and sacrifice.

In preparation for and during the annual Magic Hat Mardi Gras parade and festivities, funds were raised for the Women's Rape Crisis Center (WRCC) in Burlington.

Kate La Riviere, Minister of Fermentation Elation Relations at Magic Hat, the equivalent of a marketing coordinator at any other standard office, explained that during the week prior to the parade stores in Burlington sold beads, hats, masks and other costumes and donated their proceeds to WRCC. The selling and donating continued through the parade with over 350 volunteers selling beads and keeping the crowds in check on the actual day of the event.

Proceeds for WRCC also came directly from the parade participants themselves. According to La Riviere, participants paid $200 as an entry fee and additionally performed their own fundraising.

The funds raised will support all of WRCC's programs from women's support services to women's crisis education in schools and businesses. In the end, everyone's fundraising efforts paid off.

Kendall Farrell, assistant director of WRCC reported the total amount raised to be around $13,000. "We were just shy of what we had hoped to do," Farrell said, "But given the fact that the parade had to be postponed because of all the snow we were really happy about it." The total amount raised was short of last year's whopping $17,000 which, according to Farrell was the highest amount raised in the event's twelve-year history.

Farrell missed the parade, but was selling beads shortly after the floats had rolled by in all their majestic Mardi Gras glory. Farrell was surprised to see such a large, lively crowd.

"We were really worried with the postponement that people would lose enthusiasm, but that was not the case," Farrell said, explaining why she was so pleasantly surprised at the presence of spectators still lingering around, buying beads after the parade had passed.

Magic Hat was also concerned that the turnout might be less than stellar. According to La Riviere, "When we planned for the parade on the 17th we expected that at least 25,000 people would show, so the rescheduling may have put a slight cramp in our numbers."

The postponement may have put a slight cramp in a few people's travel plans as well. La Riviere checked the website and commented, "I have seen people's feedback on the website and we heard from a few people who were really bummed that it got postponed because they had already booked plane tickets or made vacation plans."

But in the end, nothing could stop "The Biggest Mardi Gras East of the Mississippi" from bringing in nothing less than a good time had by all.

La Riviere mentioned, "One of my coworkers bumped into two guys from GQ magazine on a tour of Mardi Gras celebrations who said this one was the best Mardi Gras parade they had seen."

In fact, La Riviere noted that there was a silver lining in the parade's postponement: "It turned into a weeklong celebration rather than a weekend one." On the weekend of the originally scheduled parade Magic Hat still went forward with other planned events like the kickoff party at Higher Ground.

On Saturday Magic Hat offered brewery tours, more events downtown and witnessed the transformation of Church Street as clubs and bars downtown anchored themselves to the event and threw their own Mardi Gras festivities.

When the Mardi Gras parade finally came to fruition, the many companies and groups from all over Burlington who created their very own themed floats were finally able to show off their hard work. Various community members judged the floats to determine the winner of the annual "Best Float Award."

This year, Magic Hat had a beautiful, ethereal float themed after the season ale h.I.P.A., a "highly hopped beer." Artwork for the float was drawn by Stanley Mouse who is famous for his iconic art of the Grateful Dead.

Courtesy
Magic Hat's own float was by far one of the most artistically appealing floats at the Mardi Gras parade festivities.

The big crowd favorite this year was the float for the Redstone Commercial Group that featured a parody performance of Victoria's Angels called Victor's Angels, featuring men of all shapes and sized donning fabulously sexy lingerie. Katie Goldstein, a junior at UVM, found the Redstone float to be "by far the best thing about this year's parade."

> One of my coworkers bumped into two guys from GQ who said this was the best Mardi Gras parade they had seen.
> — Kate La Riviere, Magic Hat employee

Unfortunately the people's choice did not prevail. But this year's official float winner was certainly worthy of the coveted prize. Top Hat Entertainment's "Superhero" float featuring Wonder Woman, Batman and even Clark Kent changing into Superman in a phone booth took the cake in this year's best float contest.

According to La Riviere, it was a combination of music, costumes and overall creativity that led Top Hat Entertainment to claim the victory.

Maddie William, a junior at UVM, raved about the event, although she said she wishes the parade itself had been longer. "The parade was only an hour," William noted, "But I guess how long can you make a parade? If they got more sponsors maybe it could be better."

La Riviere confirmed this sentiment, saying, "We had fewer floats this year than in years past, but it ran a good 45 minutes."

In the past, William felt the parade was rowdier and a bit more exciting. This was her second parade and William described the differences between this year and last saying, "Last year people were able to run around in the streets more. This year there was better crowd control so it was a better environment for little kids which is good."

This observation was certainly satisfying to hear for Magic Hat.

La Riviere expressed that the event is meant to be family oriented. "I think in years past it might have been a little bawdier. But we really try to have people understand that it's a family event."

One of the ways Magic Hat ensures that behavior remains under control is with crowd control volunteers for the spectators and with a "behavior deposit" for parade participants.

"We have a behavior deposit so we put the rules in place about drinking and certain behaviors that we frown upon from both a logistical standpoint and to make sure everything stays PG," La Riviere explained, "So companies and other parade participants pay $50 per float and that's their behavior bond. At the end, if we don't have any incidents, they get their check back.

La Riviere agreed that this year did not witness much family unfriendly behavior. She attributes this to a general attitude about the event. "People are pretty cognizant of the fact that it's not the time to get loaded and be obscene," she explained.

It seemed this year that college students were, for the most part, on par with Magic Hat's expectations. According to William, the event offered UVM students an opportunity to prove themselves as responsible, positive contributors to the Burlington community.

By acting in a way that was acceptable to Magic Hat, the students at the college were able to improve their standing in the eyes of the citizens of Burlington and the greater area.

"A lot of people think the town and UVM conflict sometimes. But this goes to show that the college scene definitely fits in well with the community. I think it was really cool the way the college students were able to integrate with the town and not be so isolated or exclusive," said Williams.

Courtesy
Participants in the Redstone Commercial Group's winning float parade their creative efforts that made the day.

Vermont Beads and Fibers simply bead-dazzles

Tamara Hilmes

A mannequin dons just one of the many examples put on display to inspire customers of what they can possibly create with yarn and needles.

By Tamara Hilmes
Local News Editor

I was speed walking toward the bank to deposit a check in between classes when a bright purple and fuchsia sign caught the corner of my eye. It read "Vermont Beads and Fibers." I slowed down just enough to catch a glimpse of a room with walls lined with brightly colored yarn. Inside, a tiny woman was bustling about with an ice cube tray in hand and a customer in tow.

I entered the shop and was greeted immediately by the tiny woman I had seen in the window. She turned out to be the storeowner, Bethanie Barry. After a warm welcome, Barry quickly engaged me in a tour of her shop. First, we headed over to check out the beads. Two-hundred and twenty-thousand of them to be exact. "We just finished taking inventory," explained Barry. "We were closed for three days and all of the staff as well as extra people came in to count."

Vermont Beads and Fibers, which opened in May of 2004 and moved to its current location just last year, sells a wide variety of yarns and beads as well as tools, accessories and books. As we began to embark on a tour of the massive bead collection, Barry explained that she had been working with beads for over 30 years.

"I was a high school drop-out, a teenage runaway," Barry recalled. "I went to Coconut Grove, California and started a store with a bunch of hippies. Different people brought beads into the store and I began to learn more and more about the different kinds of beads out there."

Not only does Barry run and manage the Middlebury shop, she also cultivates her other passions as a true bead and yarn aficionado. Barry has written a book on bead-crochet and she travels around the country teaching at various conferences. "I have taught in Milwaukee, Ireland and Chicago," said Barry. "This April I will be teaching at the Bead Expo in California."

As I weaved my way among the rows of beads in bins, I examined everything from Japanese Miracle beads, extremely light and luminous beads that are made through a secret process that the craftspeople refuse to reveal, to Swarovski crystal, a multi-faceted bead that is highly reflective and of the finest quality, according to Barry.

The store not only sells beads from Asia, but Barry imports beads from South America and Czechoslovakia as well. I spent a good ten minutes sifting through an array of miniature animal beads — wooden elephants, sheep, donkeys, beavers, bananas, turtles and alpacas that were all hand-painted in Peru.

"I like to get my beads from local businesses located elsewhere in the world," said Barry. "In this way I can help support other communities. I like to do business with a conscience."

The store also sells beads made from semi-precious stones, sterling silver and freshwater pearls

Picking one up and placing it in the palm of her hand, Barry began to contextualize a rare Czech glass bead, explaining the rich history that the small object beheld.

"During World War II in Czechoslovakia, each family had different molds for making beads," said Barry. "They buried these molds in holes in their yards so that the Germans couldn't get them. These glass beads that we have were made in these antique molds."

After the bead tour, Barry introduced me to another member of the staff who could help me select yarn and needles to jump-start my new hobby. Employee Daria Bocciarelli, who, oddly enough, turned out to be the wife of my history professor, began to tell me about the different kinds of yarn that the store carries. Whether you want blue, teal, maroon, gray, marigold, lavender, sparkly, fuzzy, stringy or hairy, Vermont Beads and Fibers has it all. The store even has a display of local yarns produced in Vermont and New Hampshire including yarn that is hand-dyed by Cherry Tree Hill and organic yarn from Addison County sheep. While browsing, I found another customer ooing and ahhing over the selection.

"They have really beautiful yarns here," said Alice Kaiser-Sehatzlein, who was visiting Middlebury after spending the weekend in Canada. "They have a better selection than anywhere in Montréal." After examining the yarn and "fondling" the various kinds as Barry invited me to do, Daria suggested that I try "a thicker yarn" that would allow me to use bigger needles which are easier for beginners to use. I finally settled on "Baby Alpaca Grande," made by Plymouth Yarn.

Bocciarelli showed me how to find the recommended needle size located on the back of the label, and she then helped me pick out a pair of circular knitting needles, size 10.5. The needles were tiny bamboo sticks connected with a clear plastic tube and cost only $8.50. According to Bocciarelli, "needles usually range from seven to 20 dollars."

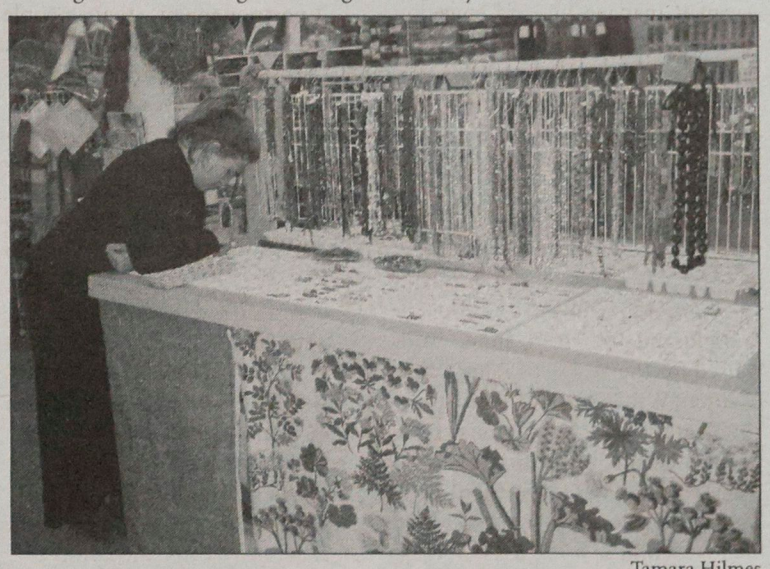
Happy with my selections, I was ready to take my yarn and needles to the register when Barry asked if I knew how to cast-on. Remembering my frustrated attempts sitting on my bed casting on and watching it come undone, I sucked up my pride and admitted that it had been awhile. Without wasting a moment, Barry led me to a table at the back of the store. "It's not difficult and it's fun," said Barry. "This is what we do."

Before I could start knitting, however, I had to wind the yarn. I removed the yarn from its package and Bocciarelli held it around her hands as I wound my first-ever yarn ball. It looked just like the yarn balls that you see cats playing with in children's picture books. Feeling confident with my yarn-winding skills, I moved on to casting-on. Bocciarelli started by creating a slipknot and then twisting the yarn around her left thumb and forefinger. She then began to magically project stitches onto the needle. After several failed attempts and after my face had turned several shades of red, I finally managed to cast-on four stitches. Take that Martha Stewart.

Although I was already a whopping four inches into my scarf, I realized that I would need a lot more help than I could get in one afternoon. Bocciarelli suggested that I attend Community Knitting, which takes place at the store from 5:30 to 9:30 on Wednesday nights.

"I would highly recommend coming on Wednesday night," Bocciarelli told me. "Women who have been knitting longer than both Bethanie and I combined come and are happy to give free advice." The store also offers a variety of knitting classes which can be viewed on their website, beadsandfibers.com.

After paying for my needles and my yarn, I left the store carrying the neon-green tote bag that Bocciarelli had placed them in and took one last look around the store. There were still so many things that I had not gotten a chance to experience, from the make-it and take-it table, where customers can make their own jewelry right in the store, to the patterns that hang from the various shelves of yarn. I was excited to start knitting my scarf, and though I will most likely drop several more stitches before the project is complete, I will definitely be dropping by Vermont Beads and Fibers again in the very near future.



Tamara Hilmes

A customer examines some of Bethanie Barry's shop's 220,000 beads.

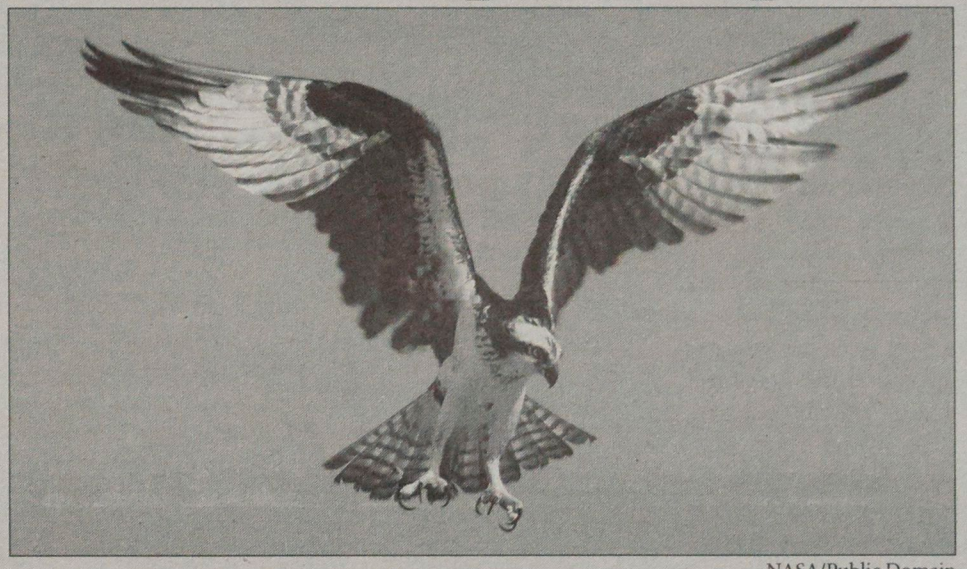
Vermont Electric Power stops to help a feathered friend

By Kelly Janis
Local News Editor

When the Vermont Electrical Power Company (VELCO) scoped out the proposed site of its new line easement corridor on the banks of South Slang Creek, near Vergennes, it found its desired transmission pole structure already occupied. But it was not another utilities company that had beaten VELCO to the punch. Instead, two far more adroit creatures had taken up residence on the Green Mountain Power distribution line: a breeding pair of ospreys, nest and all. What was an environmentally conscious company to do?

The osprey – sometimes referred to as a fishhawk, seahawk or fish eagle, flaps its long, narrow wings across every continent except Antarctica, swooping down in a flourish to scoop up the unlucky constituents of its fish-rich diet. This medium-large raptor so confounded taxonomists with its distinctiveness from other diurnal birds of prey that it scored its very own genus (Pandion) and family (Pandionidae). It has also garnered its fair share of pop culture references: the bird is the official mascot for numerous sports teams and appeared on the 1986 series Canadian $10 note.

But not everything is rosy for the osprey. The bird seeks out tall structures upon which to construct its heaping nest of sticks. If an adequate quantity of such structures is not available, the osprey is forced to delay breeding. In the past, the species has confronted the threat of extinction in certain regions as a result of an inability to reproduce sufficiently, making such delays a cause for concern.



NASA/Public Domain

The fish-loving osprey may be found on every continent except Antartica.

Consequently, efforts known as "osprey relocation" or "osprey re-establishment" have been undertaken with increasing frequency over the course of the past three decades. Such efforts entail constructing artificial structures on which ospreys may nest in order to promote the species' survival. According to conservationists Glen Rhodenizer and P.J. Austin-Smith, in an article written for the Department of Natural Resources in Nova Scotia, projects of this breed are "an example of how both public and private agencies can work together successfully to protect and conserve wildlife resources."

VELCO, which, according to its website was organized in 1956 to develop an integrated transmission system to interconnect the numerous Vermont electric utilities and to provide them with access to economic power from the St. Lawrence River project, is convinced of the merits of the re-establishment endeavor.

"VELCO has been an active participant in osprey re-establishment since the early 1990s, when it installed its first osprey nest platform, said Meg Barros, Corporate Communications Coordinator for the company. "VELCO crews have constructed successful nesting platforms at Colchester Pond in Colchester, at the Sand Bar Wildlife Management Area in Milton, and most recently, near Lake Memphremagog."

In the vein of previous successes, VELCO decided to furnish the South Slang Creek ospreys with a cozy new home.

At 8 a.m. on Monday, a crew trudged through formidable snow banks to spend three hours erecting a 40 foot wooden pole and nesting platform for the raptors.

"VELCO is relocating the nesting site approximately 130-140 linear feet northwest of its current location, outside of the easement corridor," Barros said. "The proposed nesting location will give the breeding pair an unrestricted line of flight north and south along the creek, and provide an ideal perch location above a semi-open field."

Was the venture a success? Bird lovers can breathe easy — according to Barros, "Everything went as planned."

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The staff editorials represent the official opinions of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the Editorial Board and drafted by the Opinions Editors.

Make the crime alerts meaningful

Sexual assault is a crime often committed but rarely reported. According to an estimate from the University of Chicago, less than five percent of all sexual assaults are ever reported to authorities. In other words, for every rape case the public hears about, as many as twenty others went unnoticed. With this national situation in mind, one would think that the College administration would understand and appreciate the necessity of sensitively alerting students when a sexual assault occurs on campus and reminding them of the resources available. But in handling the internal communications regarding the Feb. 17 assault at Brackett House, the administration demonstrated once again that it just does not get it.

Crime alerts, which the College is legally required to distribute, should ideally help investigators solicit information from the community while warning students about the risks of certain behavior or activities. But Public Safety has repeatedly failed to strike this balance. Last week's crime alert called for information on two suspects described only as white males with brown hair, one "more muscular than the other." How much useful information could have been gathered about two brown-haired male suspects at Middlebury is irrelevant, because the alert did not suggest whether the suspects were from Middlebury or even if they were college-aged.

But presumably Public Safety knew more than they shared, and the need to protect victims and suspects confidentiality is legitimate. The bigger absence in the crime alert was the lack of warning to students about how such a crime occurred, how it could be prevented or what students could do if it happened to them or someone they knew. It may have been a student who stopped the assault, but what kind of peers left a friend so intoxicated and alone in the first place? Students do not need details for gossip or muckraking, but they need to appreciate the severity of sexual assault crimes, the ways they can help prevent them and the resources available for victims should they be needed.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's follow-up email did little to redeem his administration. Liebowitz should have expressed his regret and disappointment that such crimes are being committed. He should have offered to open a discussion about the prevention of and responses to these incidents. At the very least, he should have let students know that his staff was more concerned about the implications of this most recent assault than the crime alert suggested. But instead he only defended the inadequate e-mail from Public Safety.

Crime alerts as they are currently employed not only belittle the significance of a sexual assault, they belittle the Department of Public Safety as an investigative office. Going forward, we hope more attention will be paid to why crime alerts are sent out, and how they can be not just a formality, but a means of prevention.

contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: campus@middlebury.edu

or find us on the web at: <www.middleburycampus.com

Taylor Long and Sam Dakota Miller

letter to the editor

To the Editor:

Middlebury's very own sex columnist may be lapsing into the grasp of underground femi-nazism. In the interest of preserving sexual truths, it is every man's solemn obligation to debunk her repugnant slander of man's dearest companion, the penis, in last week's edition of *The Middlebury Campus.*

From high atop her pedestal of arrogant feminism, this columnist slings claim after claim of steaming abuse at the tower of manhood, nay, civilization. However, in so doing, this columnist merely inadvertently reveals her virginal ignorance regarding the nature of a man's relationship with his "yardstick of affection."

In defense of her tenuous argument that a man sees his phallus as an unwanted "roommate" of sorts, this columnist enlisted the support of a man whose skewed view of the penis clearly stemmed from his own sexual confusion and impotence. One would hardly have to undertake a modicum of journalistic investigation to come to the conclusion that the heterosexual male shares an indomitable and unsurpassed connection with his "soldier of intercourse."

Furthermore, it is almost criminal to infer that our "brother in arms" will ever let us down, unless we are intoxicated to the max. If this columnist has experienced such inopportune flaccidity, on behalf of the male community we recommend that she must select her sexual partners based on their compatibility as opposed to their degree of drunken vulnerability.

To add insult to injury, this columnist then proceeds to sully the kinship between a man and his penis with the inference that our "hungry, hungry hippo" has a mind of its own. Any woman who subscribes to this misconception has simply fallen victim to the false belief, proliferated by those perverted males seeking self-vindication, that a man cannot control his sexual whims. To blame one's sexual urges on one's penis is equivalent to blaming the pornography on one's computer on one's mouse. In actual fact, the actions of a man's penis represent his mind's most honest sexual thoughts and intentions. The mind and the penis act in concert.

Sincerely,
Alexander L. Kent '10
Larchmont, NY

Nicholas D. Alexander '10
Jakarta, Indonesia

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Monday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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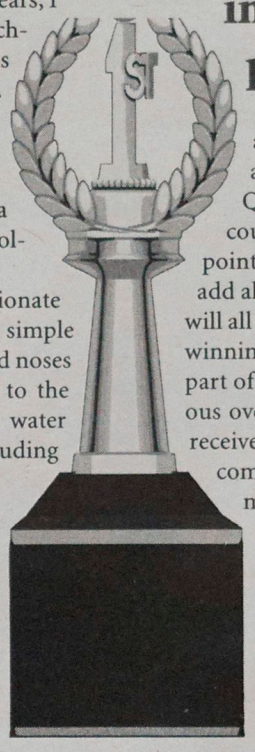
notes from the desk: **Joe Bergan**

The Cameron Cup

Here at Middlebury, we have a little thing called "the Commons" system. For the most part, this system is a lot of fun — students get a weekly newsletter, fondue on Fridays, an incredible support team and loads of funding for any good event idea. While the Commons system truly has shaped Middlebury in profound ways, there remains one small problem — a lack of Commons passion. In my four years, I have witnessed a lot of Commons switching, and also Commons loyalty. This loyalty revolves solely around housing. If you don't want to live in Hepburn, you switch somewhere else. Rarely do students feel bad when they are in line at Open draw, "Oh, I'm really gonna miss that Brainerd Commons video collection."

How do we make students passionate about their commons? The answer is simple and right in front of our fondue-covered noses — The Cameron Cup. If you ever go to the climbing wall and take a drink at the water fountain, you will see a small plaque lauding "The Cameron Cup."



Allegedly a trophy given to the Commons with the most intramural championships in a year, the little plaques displaying winners stop before 2006. If this was supposed to be some kind of spirited rivalry, maybe I missed the boat.

The Cameron Cup should be resurrected, and not just for intramural events — for *all* aspects of student life. Yes, the comparisons to *Harry Potter* will be clear, but bear with me. Why not make the Cameron Cup an actual cup, a trophy won by the best Commons during the academic year. Leadership positions in campus clubs and organizations could count as points, as could the number of College Scholars and Dean's List members in the respective commons. We can even hold a film and music festival between the commons for a huge amount of points. Yes, I bet even those Quidditch games could count. Behavior will also count. Alcohol citations and incident reports lose points for the final tally. At the end of the year, we add all these points up and determine a winner. What will all this hard work lead to? Campus wide pride. The winning commons wins pride in the fact that they are part of team that pulled together and emerged victorious over the other commons. The winning commons receives a large sum of money, given by the losing commons as well as a huge ball/bash/party to commemorate their superiority. Finally, there will be no more Commons switching. If you are unsatisfied with your status, win the Cameron Cup. Sure, this will foster jealousy, but we are no longer children. No one will be making sure everything is equal when we step into our first job. Let's make the Commons actually mean something and beef up the Cameron Cup.

Alcohol citations and incident reports lose points for the final

Joe Bergan, 2007.5 is Features Editor. He majors in Film and Media Culture and hails from Middletown, Connecticut.

op-ed: **Connor Williams**

Concerns regarding an assualt

As both a student at Middlebury College and a representative of Omega Alpha, I wish to express the membership of Omega Alpha's deepest regret and concern that a sexual assault occurred at a party we hosted last weekend. While it seems that no Tavern members were involved, this incident has still been a major concern to us. It's spoken about at house meetings, in our common room and in passing. First and foremost, I want to pass the entire membership's concerns, thoughts and best wishes to the victim of this assault.

Omega Alpha strives to foster a safe, enjoyable and care-free environment where students can socialize and take a break from the rigorous workload that results from attending Middlebury. When we fail to meet these aims, we take it very seriously and work hard to fix whatever went wrong, so that events we host in the future will be more successful. Needless to say, we were shocked to learn of the incident that happened at our party. As Secretary of Alumni Affairs for our organization, I'm the first point of contact for Alumni and current students studying abroad. In the hours following the announcement by public safety, my inbox practically exploded with e-mails from members expressing surprise and outrage that such an incident occurred at one of our parties.

In hopes to rectify this situation as best as we can, we've been fully cooperating with public safety and contributing all the information we have about the night of the party to them in hopes of aiding their investigation. We urge all students reading this to do the same. If you know anything, please contact public safety. It's my understanding that witnesses may remain anonymous if they wish, so please don't let concerns about privacy hold you back. What happened last Friday night was not, as I've heard some students saying in dining hall lines, "a girl that overreacted." It is a serious crime, and it's extremely important to make it clear that as a college community, we don't tolerate incidents like these.

ΩA

Lastly, I would like to issue an invitation for anyone with concerns that this incident might have raised about Omega Alpha or the broader social house system to come and talk with us. As the rush period begins for all the social houses, it's our hope that people will explore the opportunities for friendship and community service that social houses provide. We'd hate for people to harbor fears or misunderstandings about Omega Alpha and what we do. If you have a friend that's a member, ask them if they've got a few minutes. They'll be more than happy to talk to you. If not, feel free to e-mail me at chwillia@middlebury.edu and I'll do my best to answer any questions you might have.

Connor Williams is a Sophomore History Major and Omega Alpha member from Rexford, NY

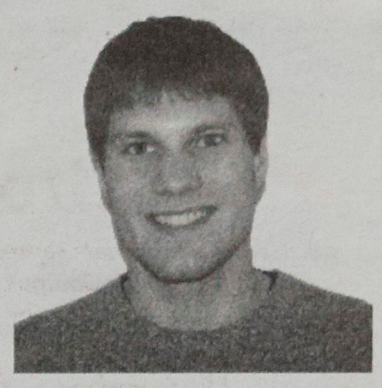
heardoncampus

These are the most sought after students in the country so we want to make sure Midd is on their radar screen.

— Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett commenting on the selected applicants who were offered a free trip to Midd.

more matter: **Matty Van Meter**

A forgotten thanks



In last week's *Campus*, a very important number was quietly mentioned in passing: $73,000. This is the approximate annual cost to the College of educating one student. For all the sticker shock associated with the comprehensive fee, the really big number is not how much you shell out to go to the College, but how much the College shells out while you're a student: almost $300,000 for all four years. Now, that's a lot of money.

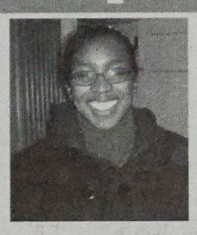
Private education is a very strange business. More so than most non-profits. To begin with, a substantial number of the employees may not view their employer as a company, and may even become offended if the suggestion is made. The clients (you) are generally oblivious that they are living in a company, which exists only because some people in the administration are very good at getting people to give them tremendous amounts of money. Indeed, the business survives almost exclusively on the beneficence of a huge number of people, and not at all on the gross margin (that is, the money they make on each student, which is negative). According to the Budget Office's website, the price covers, in Middlebury's case, only 68% of the cost of the service, leaving a net annual loss per student of about $28,000; a deficit of $70 million per year. This is huge. Imagine if Coca Cola, or any other for-profit business, sold its product at 68 percent of cost. It wouldn't happen. For every dollar the College spends on you, you pay back 68 cents.

Or do you? According to Student Financial Services 35-40 percent of students receive financial aid, which is taken into account when calculating the cost of education, but is an area in which the College loses a great deal of money. In fact, according to the Budget Office's website, 16 percent of the College's expenditures last year, or about $28 million, were for financial aid, the largest single category after "instruction."

How is this sustainable? *The Campus* article made mention of a "hidden scholarship," comprised of charitable donations. It may be more than just a scholarship. Every year, enough people give money to cover that $70 million gap between price and cost. They give to capital campaigns to build buildings, give money to aid faculty research (most recently, the much-debated Rehnquist chair), give money for financial aid and, especially, give to the endowment. The Budget Office gives the total market value of the endowment last year as $825 million. This figure is a little misleading, since the College is not allowed to use any of that money. An endowment is money given and invested with the stipulation that the principal (original investment) will never be spent, only the return on the investment (interest, etc.). Still, it is a lot of money selflessly given and comprised 18 percent of the College's revenue last year. People in our administration work very hard to keep this money coming in. It is a thankless job, but one they are good at.

Why do these numbers matter? It is helpful to know, I think, that all that we have here does not come out of thin air. We pay for some of it, or our parents or grandparents do, but much of it, millions and millions of dollars worth, is given to us as a gift. This is good to keep in mind as we load our plates at the dining hall, or settle into a reclining chair looking over the peeking spires and roofs of town to the soft curves of the Green Mountains. It is good to remember that it will be in our hands before long, to provide others with these gifts. Good to remember that it is gifts, regardless of size, stipulation, or the name attached to them, which allow us to live the lives we do here. And so I will say something that most students do not: thank you.

the web poll: Should there be better lighting or more blue lights on campus?



"It might be nice to have more centralized blue lights instead of having to be a track star to get to one behind BiHall or CFA."

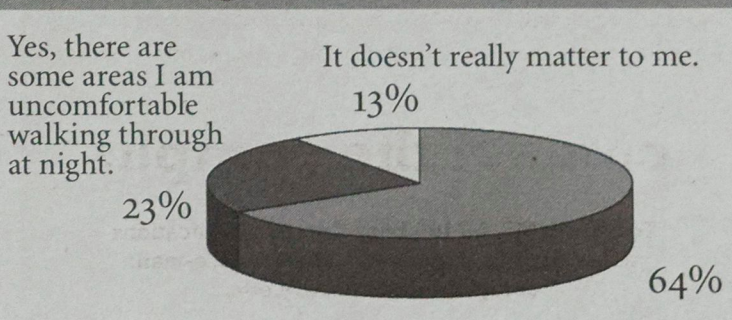
— PRISCILLA SINCLAIR '07.5

"I think we should have more blue lights at McCullough, and more black lights around campus."

— ALEC TARBERRY '08

"Anyone who pushed a blue light would have to outsmart some weirdo for thirteen minutes before anyone came, where she wouldn't be anymore anyways."

— MARY LANE '10


Yes, there are some areas I am uncomfortable walking through at night.
23%
It doesn't really matter to me.
13%
64%
No, I like looking at the stars and I feel perfectly safe walking wherever.

Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

Next week's web poll: Does the residential advising system (including JC's and RA's) at Middlebury need help?

500 signatures and counting... are you one of them?

http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/koreanatmiddlebury

This advertisement is sponsored by Ilhan Kim '07.

www.middleburycampus.com

the national Middlebury news the week before its in The New York Times

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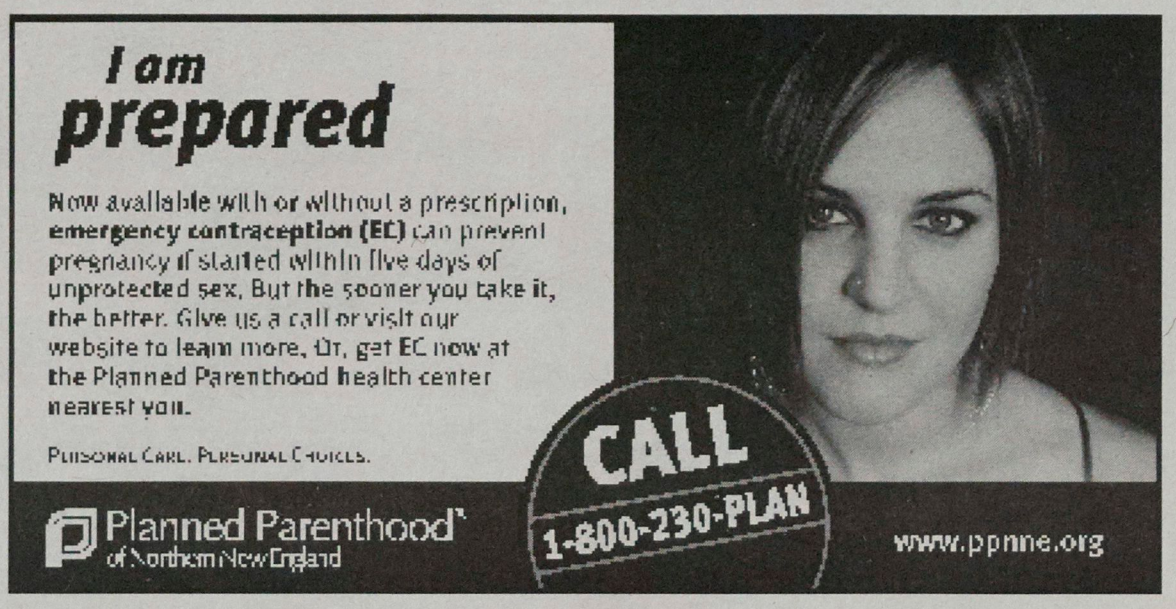
email campus@middlebury.edu

We look forward to your new ideas.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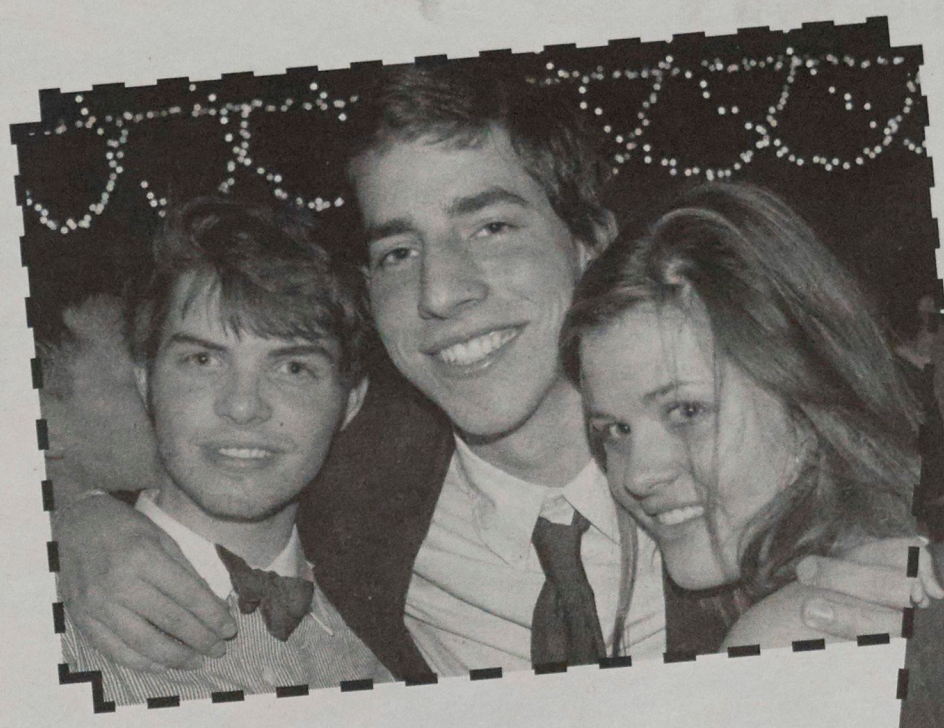
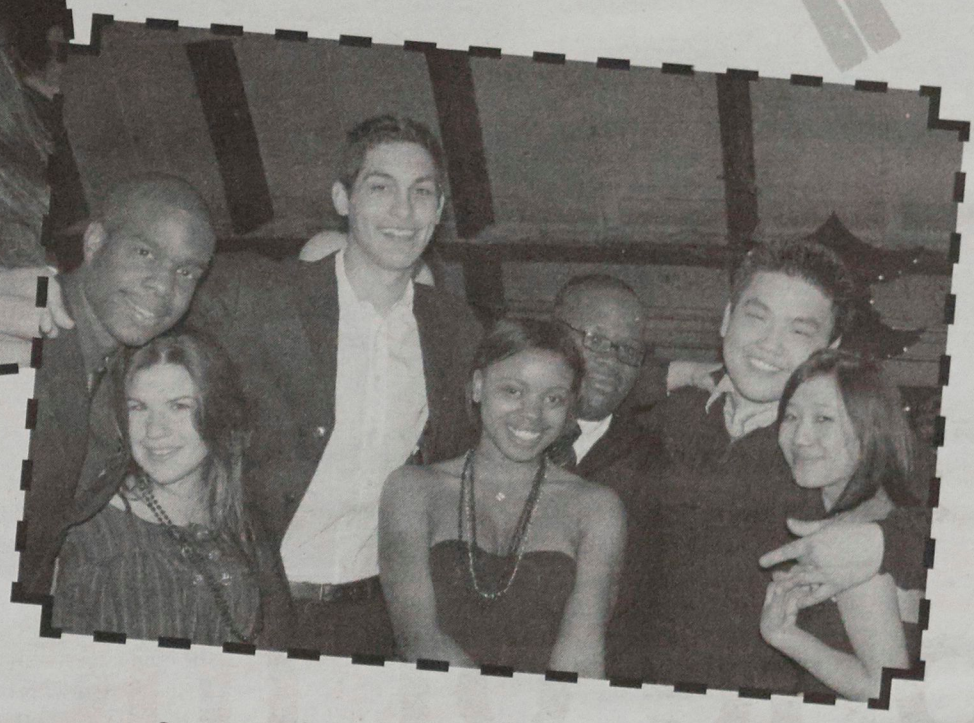




Winter Carnival 2007

photography by Sharai Lewis-Gruss and Ilhan Kim

With the three-day weekend behind us, we can now reflect upon the glory that was the 84th annual Middlebury College Winter Carnival celebration. Including such festivities as the ice show, cultural gala, Nordic and alpine ski competitions and the ball, the Carnival, with "Jet-Set" as its theme, did not disappoint.

The weekend kicked off on Thursday afternoon with the Cultural Gala at the Center for the Arts, an event that included a capella groups and activities for children. Following the gala was the "Around the World in 80 Days" Ice Show, held at Kenyon Arena and featuring guest skater Ross Miner, the 2006 United States National Intermediate Men's Champion.

Those who trekked to either the Rikert Ski Touring Center or the Middlebury College Snow Bowl on Friday and Saturday were treated to exhilarating ski races and enthusiastic fans.

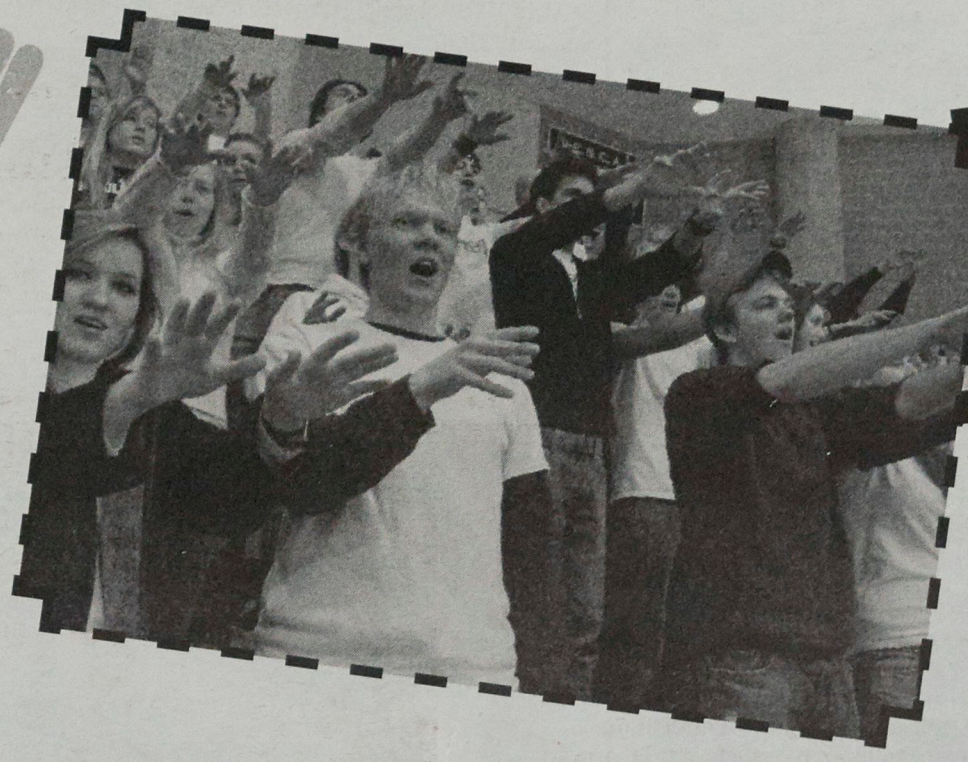
Post ski race-watching, students stripped off the ski gear and got dolled up for the annual ball. Nura Suleiman '07 reflected on her experience with winter balls past and present. "Freshman year," she said, "I got dressed up for the ball, took pictures and then didn't go. Sophomore year, a whole year wiser, I didn't even contemplate dressing up. Junior year, well, I was abroad, and unless you consider Syria 2006 on par with the winter ball, I guess I didn't go...again. This year — veni, vidi, vici baby. I came, I saw, I conquered — end of story."

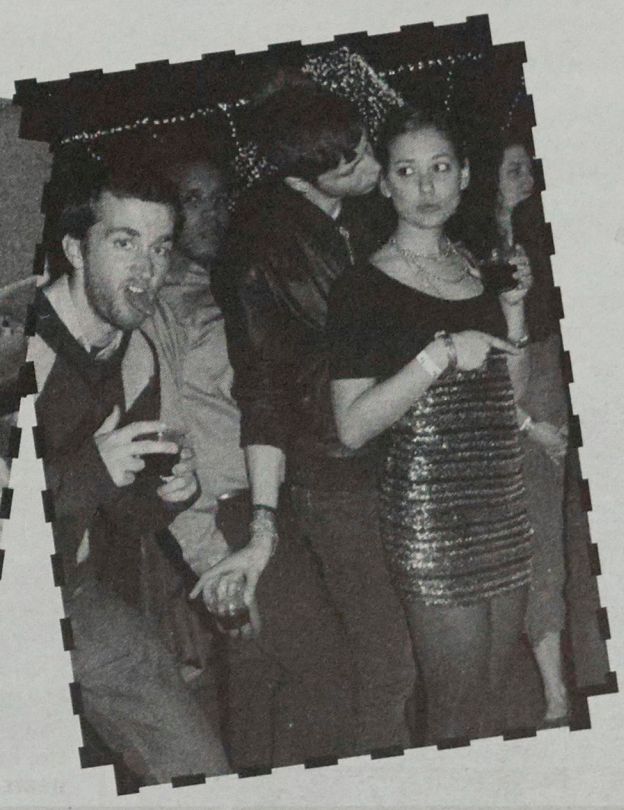
Winter Carnival Committee member and co-organizer of the ball Oona Cassidy '07 explained that the "idea for the ball came from nightlife around the world — we picked Tokyo, New York and Chamonix."

But the highlight of the night, perhaps, was the announcement of the Winter Carnival King and Queen. A male, Amaury Sosa '07, won the title of queen and a female, Milena Flament '07, won the title of king! Flament noted that she "only found out she was nominated when the names of the nominees were released," which "was a scheme" on the part of her and Sosa's friends. She added, "I don't think anyone expected their king to be wearing a dress."

Sosa was clearly touched by his win — "As an international, queer student of color I was both shocked and honored to see the enthusiasm with which the Middlebury community welcomed the idea of having a guy for queen and a girl for king. I could not have asked for a better gift. My love goes out to those who made the nomination and to those who voted for the both of us."

—Polly Johnson, *Associate Editor*

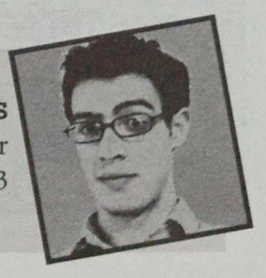




sex sage
How about a gentle massage?, page 12

Meet Midd
You know their faces, now know their lives, page 12

newton's laws
Alternative energy — it's bigger than transportation, page 13



sexsage

by Sage Biester

Last week was my 22nd birthday and my friends, perhaps taking a cue from a previous column about masturbation, chipped in to buy me the gift that keeps on giving — a vibrator. I have never used a vibrator before, and at first I didn't know how to react as I opened the box from Trusted Pleasures Inc.

Getting that first vibrator is a big step for any girl and it can be a hard one to make. There is still a certain stigma attached to it. Just look at how people buy them: you can either stroll into a "sex shop" or other store that specializes in erotic wares, or shop hush-hush online. Either way, the experience promises to be unsettling. I did some vibrator "research" on the Internet. Nothing — apparently Google Safe Search thinks vibrators are corrupting the youth.

So I tried again, this time searching for "The Rabbit vibrator." The Rabbit rose to fame after an episode of "Sex and the City" and earned its name from the little pink hare attached to it. I was confident that if anything would yield results it would be the bunny, but my search results mostly had to do with breeding long-haired angoras and Chinese astrology. Buried in the results was one link where I found what I was looking for. The headline read: the Rabbit "massager."

A massager? Like for back pain and tension? I clicked on the link and a plethora of innocuous names popped up: "Relaxing handheld massager," "magic massager," "Flexible Jelly Soft Waterproof Stick Battery Back, Scalp and Body Massager" — the euphemisms seemed endless. They were wolves in sheep's clothing, lying about their true purposes to seem more benign. I suppose that in some sense vibrators do perform a kind of massage, but they certainly aren't getting anywhere near your shoulders.

So what's the fuss? If everyone knows what a "massager" really is, and if many women own one, why is it necessary to hide it in inoffensive vocabulary? Perhaps it's because women themselves have a hard time accepting the idea of a vibrator. Just like men, we spend years developing intimate relationships with our hands. Who needs some rubbery inanimate object when you know exactly what to do and how to do it? I know that I have been hesitant to buy one for myself because it seemed so extraneous.

There is also hostility towards vibrators in general because the mere presence of one implies that a partner is not necessary to have an orgasm equal to or better than what you get from sex. Of course this statement is ridiculous considering the fact that most men and women have sex not for the orgasm but for the overall experience. No vibrator, not even "The Rabbit," can replace all of the sensory pleasures humans receive from sex. Still, a vibrator makes it easier for women to get those orgasms that are often missing from their sex lives, which explains why so many will own one at some point in their lives.

So do you have one or don't you? Will you try it or won't you? The experience is out there if you are willing to accept the fact that vibrators are for vaginas, not your lumbar, and if you'll admit that orgasms are both enjoyable and necessary (with or without a significant other).

Owin' Everybody

Ilhan Kim

"Guys, listen — college is the only time you can get a girl to sleep with you in a bunkbed," said comedian Owen Smith to the laughter of the crowd in the McCullough Social Space on Friday night. Smith performed for audiences at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., joking about his own life experiences as well as the world around him. Born in Nassau, Bahamas, Smith moved to the U.S. at a young age, was raised in Washington D.C. and currently lives in Los Angeles. Graduating from Notre Dame in 1995 with a degree in finance, he would eventually go on to meet success in the comedy circuit. He has appeared on Comedy Central's "Premium Blend," NBC's "Friday Night," CBS's "Star Search," "Everybody Hates Chris" and was the highlight of the Montreal Just For Laughs Comedy Festival.

At one point he remarked, "Your name reflects who you are. I had a friend growing up named Bentley. Yeah, I know, we made fun of him all the time. Now he's rich and has three Bentleys. What did my mom name me? Owen. Now I'm owin' everybody." It was this candidness about his life that made his act appealing. At one point he remarked, "Your name reflects who you are. I had a friend growing up named Bentley. Yeah, I know, we made fun of him all the time. Now he's rich and has three Bentley's. What did my mom name me? Owen. Now I'm owin' everybody." It was this candidness about his life that made his act appeal to the audience.

Smith also commented on race in his repertoire, but never made his commentary excessive. It was not his ethnicity but his life that provided the material for his comedy.

—Mike Murali, *Assistant Features Editor*

15 minutes with.... Jeanine Buzali '09

Childhood Ambition...becoming an "inventor."

Greatest Fear...growing up.

Inspiration... Vermont winter sunsets.

Soundtrack...Best of What's Around — Dave Matthews Band

Wildest Dream...being a MOSAD secret agent.

Last non school related purchase in Middlebury ...a colorful polka-dot backpack.

Retreat...airport terminals.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

The Departed	Ellen
Martin Scorsese and Oscar: together at last.	Third worst-rated Oscars ever.
Winter Carnival Ball	Ski Party
Sushi, chocolate fountains and The Doughboys made sober the new drunk.	Where was the bonfire? In your snow pants?
Hockey Games	Broomball Games
What the puck? You weren't there?	No thanks, I'd rather not have a broomstick in my eye.

Meet the staff that keeps Midd going

They clean your dorm, wash your dishes and sort your mail. You see their faces everyday, but rarely do you get a glimpse into their lives. *The Campus* has torn down the wall between student and staff to reveal the stories, interests and hobbies behind Midd's everyday heroes.

Kirk Sabourin: From the Battlefield to Midd's Battell

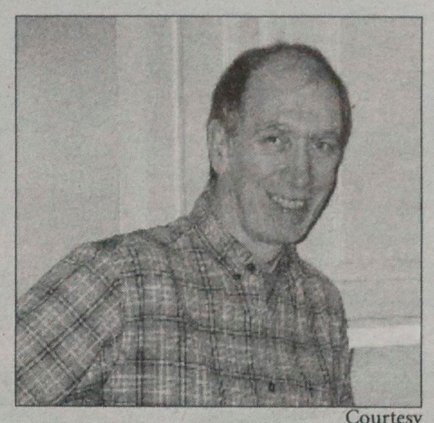
"Middlebury is my home stomping ground," says Custodian Kirk Sabourin with a smile as he wipes off the mirrors in the Battell South men's bathroom. Raised on a farm in the Addison County area, Sabourin attended class in Twilight when it was a middle school and graduated from Middlebury Union High School in 1976. Multi-talented, he has held a variety of careers in Vermont.

After receiving an Associate's Degree in Education from Castleton State College, Sabourin worked with children with special needs at the Vermont Education Center. At the same time, he served as a herdsman on a 500-cow farm and sold feed for the Paris Farmers Union before becoming employed by the College in 2004.

Sabourin says he particularly liked farming, specifically matching bulls and cows to breed in order to ensure the passing on of specific traits.

But Sabourin's life has not always been that of a rural farmer. An eight year member of the National Guard, he was stationed in Saudi Arabia in 1990-1991 during the Gulf War. Sabourin felt "surprised" when he heard that he would be defending his country abroad. As a member of the National Guard, he said he had expected to serve mostly within the state, but "when you put on a uniform, you're a soldier first before anything." He soon found himself in the Middle East. There he was ranked as a Specialist and worked as a welder in a machine shop. He still recalls the demanding state of always being ready with a gas mask and weapon, which was "nerve-wracking and quite broadening." Sabourin is nonetheless glad that the goal of liberating Kuwait was accomplished.

These days, when he's not in Battell, Sabourin stays busy with a range of activities. Every day after work he takes his 17-year-old Australian shepherd, "Checkers," for a walk. He also sings in the Catholic Church choir. Family-oriented, Sabourin lives with and cares for his mother. He has three brothers who live in surrounding states and looks



Courtesy

forward to spending the holidays with them. Although he has never been spotted dancing down the dormitory halls, Sabourin swing-dances with other members of the community on Monday nights at the athletic center. It seems only fitting that Sabourin now works within a liberal arts community, as he truly is a Renaissance man.

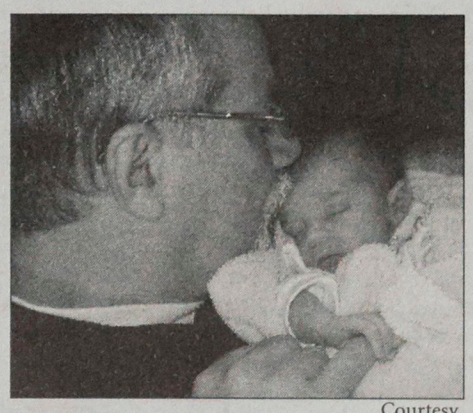
—H. Kay Merriman, *Staff Writer*

David Larose: Signed, sealed, delivered, he's yours

Mail Center Supervisor David Larose detests liver and onions and cell phones. When not pampering his cat or watching "Law and Order," he is probably off in the mountains camping. Larose has a soft spot for "old gangster movies of the 30s," and if he had a day off he says he would spend it at a state camping ground, hiking, starting a fire, listening to a baseball game on the radio or sitting back watching a movie with a glass of Merlot and some cheese and crackers. He's also a Vietnam War veteran.

Larose is one of the people responsible for the "half-price" textbooks and every other package students receive in the mail at Middlebury. Having worked as the College's Mail Center supervisor since 1985, along with Mail Clerks Pam Sands and Tracey Smith, he is responsible for distributing over one million pieces of mail every year to students, faculty and staff.

Larose moved from Bristol to Middlebury 25 years ago after marrying his wife Carolyn, who works as the administrative associate in the Athletics department. He loves the camaraderie of the College and enjoys riding to work and eating lunch with his wife, which he does nearly everyday.



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At the Mail Center, his pet peeve is people who lack manners. He wants people to understand the amount of physical work his team endures in order to distribute nearly fifty thousand packages a year. Having spent half of his life as the supervisor of the Mail Center, he has found that "please" and "thank you" go a long way.

A fan of the New York Giants, Boston Celtics and New York Yankees, Larose hopes to spend two weeks traveling on a baseball tour around the United States (his wife willing) once he retires. Some of his most enjoyable moments at Middlebury have been his 10 years keeping the clock for the basketball team and making signs in the wintertime for the NCAA hockey playoffs.

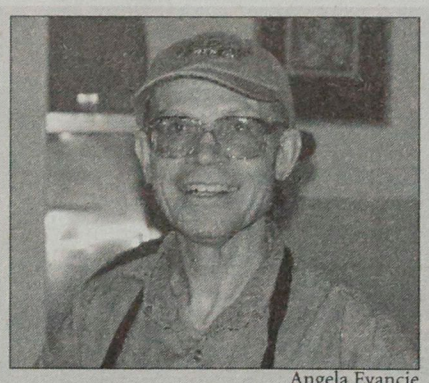
Larose also loves music, television and movies — he has over 700 CD's and 800 albums. He vividly recalls attending some of his favorite concerts, including the last concert of the Bruce Springsteen tour and a concert by U2, where he says his "hair stood up on [his] arms and the music hit [his] soul."

He also attends a blues festival in Canada every year because he loves to hear "something that's different." Some of his favorite movies are *Field of Dreams* and *They Shoot Horses Don't They*, which is about marathon partner dancing. The last movie he watched was *Flags of Our Fathers* with his 80-year-old father.

So the next time you need to pick up your home-baked cookies, or that Amazon shopping order, don't be afraid to talk to Larose about the hockey game, the Beatles or, maybe if you're daring, you can even try to convince him that a cell phone is a good idea.

—Oscar Loyo, *Staff Writer*

Stephen Draper: *The* Dr. Proctor



Angela Evancie

When Dining Room Servery Worker Stephen Draper — or more fondly known as Dr. Proctor — recalls the Middlebury of his youth, it is clear that he is somewhat of a Middlebury legend. It will have been 18 years ago on Mar. 4 that Draper joined the College dining staff.

Some of the older students know Draper for his ability to offer comforting conversation after a stressful day of class. "If it wasn't for some of the students, I wouldn't hardly know anybody," Draper said, adding, "I don't know very many people."

"A lot of the students call me The Doctor," Draper said. "Why they did this was because I was the only one who could keep up and deal with the students at the same time."

Draper is more than just the man the students see so attentively arranging the stacks of tumblers and wiping up spills at Proctor Dining Hall. He lives a quiet life outside of his time spent amongst the chatter of hungry students. It's as if you can see the years flip by as he delves into the far reaches of his memory for thoughts of long ago. Draper moved to Middlebury when he was 16 and has witnessed the slow small town changes that have slowly infiltrated the town.

"Well, there have been a lot of changes over the years. Everything is a lot different now, a lot of changes," he said. Maybe now at times we've got more people than we can deal with. With the increase in people they don't try to make changes with increase in people and buildings."

Some of his most vivid memories recall the extended camping trips he took in earlier years to places like Yellowstone National Park. He fondly recalls the freedom and vitality that surround these memories.

"When I was younger…I went where I wanted to go," he said. "Now, I still do a little camping. I go to New Hampshire and Maine and some of those places."

After a long week of putting other's needs before his own, Draper enjoys relaxing at home with his dog Punky, a blue-tipped Pomeranian.

"Friday and Saturday I'm here about half a day," Draper said, "[After that] I spend some time with the dog, spend a little time at home."

An admitted sports fanatic, Draper pays close attention to college athletics. In the evenings and on the weekends he tunes into hockey games on WFAD and talk radio.

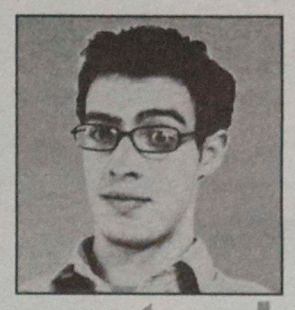
"I go to a few games. I watch cross-country, basketball a little bit. I like the hockey very well, although I don't get into it as heavy as I used to," Draper said.

On those nights spent next to the radio, Draper enjoys the luxuries of his woodstove and the cheery heat it provides. Maintenance of the woodstove requires time and skill, but Draper finds it a simple pleasure.

"I have a woodstove at home, so I have that to deal with right now. I have electric heat, but I use the woodstove," Draper said, "I am not that crazy about electric heat."

Although Middlebury has been constantly evolving, Draper has remained much the same through these times of change, living a modest life end enjoying it to its fullest.

—Sara Black, *Staff Writer*



newton's laws

by Thomas Newton

We are embroiled in an energy problem. The recent trend to make consumer appliances, electronics and cars more efficient has helped ease the pain, but the underlying ailment remains. Compact Fluorescent Lights, hybrid cars and energy-saving appliances are all gaining in popularity and lowering energy consumption.

No matter how energy efficient any electronic product is, it still consumes energy — energy that is getting harder to come by. The world at large has been developing technologies at an almost frenetic pace, except those related to energy production . A simple focus on research aimed at developing cleaner energy production could solve many of our energy woes.

It's no secret that one of the primary energy issues is oil consumption. We use on average 21 million barrels of oil a day. To put that somewhat mind-boggling number into perspective, envision, if you will, 1,100 Olympic-sized swimming pools on a vast field. Fill each of them to the brim with oil and that's the amount consumed per day. Add the fact that two-thirds of U.S. oil is imported, and that the U.S. oil reserves can only support the country for 60 days by themselves, and you see that alternative energy sources are not only needed to curb global warming but also to keep our nation running.

What sort of technologies will be created to help our energy issues? Many start-up companies have strong funding and solid plans to create and distribute new, cleaner and more efficient means for harnessing energy. Solaria, a solar electric start-up company is working on enhancing the traditional solar panel. Through a distinct production technique, Solaria uses silicon to reflect light and magnify its intensity, thereby harnessing more energy. Their current panels use 50 to 60 percent less silicon than normal solar panels, making them more cost effective, and doubling the amount of energy they produce. Future panels are expected to multiply the energy produced 100-fold, not only by reflecting and magnifying light, but also by being mounted on rotating poles that would maximize their exposure to direct light.

Once alternative sources of power are viable ways of producing mass amounts of energy, electric cars will be able to replace existing gasoline and diesel-run engines, and reduce our need for oil. The vast majority of the 3,339,000,000 liters of oil used in the U.S. every day is for transportation. If cars could run on electricity, and if electricity could be produced cleanly, our dependence on oil would slowly and steadily decrease, as would our emissions. The clean energy produced would also power all of our current electronics, which, if the current trend continues, should continue to become more energy efficient.

The amount of research and development in the area of energy technologies has been lacking, to say the least. Our current dependence on oil and our of clean methods of energy production is a direct result of this lack of devotion to alternative energy technologies. Our electronically-driven world is dependent on electricity as well as oil. A simple shift to more technological innovations in the energy field will go far in curing our current energy crisis.

Ramirez challenges students to speak the unspoken

Shirley Ramirez was recently appointed Middlebury's Dean of Institutional Diversity, a position created at the recommendation of the Human Relations Committee. Ramirez, a Latina clinical psychologist from New York City and former Executive Vice President of The Posse Foundation, moved to Middlebury to guide the College towards a model of diversity in higher education on a national level.

Sharai Lewis-Gruss

As the new Dean of Institutional Diversity, Ramirez will work with students to increase diversity awareness.

The Middlebury Campus: **Why Middlebury College?**

Shirley Ramirez: Everyone says that Middlebury is a special place. I have to be honest that I was working in my dream job as executive vice president of the Posse Foundation, where I had the opportunity to impact higher education in a very dynamic way as an outsider. During my six year tenure, I was able to really see what some of the leading institutions were doing about issues relating to diversity. It became clear to me that I needed to be inside an institution that was well-positioned to become a model in addressing important issues relating to diversity.

I do feel that Middlebury is that kind of place and that I am currently in a position that has the support to make some bold moves. Middlebury, like Posse, has this infectious kind of quality. You meet people that say, regardless of their background, that this place transformed them and is deeply embedded in their identity. I was drawn to going to another place that was able to transform people. Years and years later alumni still light up when speaking about Middlebury. That impresses me and I want so many others to follow in their footsteps.

TC: How would you define diversity?

SR: I see diversity as completely inclusive. Diversity is a term that has unfortunately lost its value. People think about it as a sound bite, something people are only verbally committed to and not taking seriously. I view diversity as inclusive and multi-dimensional. It factors in all aspects of people's identity including socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, language, thought and so many other things. Diversity, unfortunately, is often equated with minority, race and ethnicity only. A truly diverse campus and community provides an environment that is truly an academically and socially engaged place.

TC: What are your goals for addressing diversity at Middlebury?

SR: I am fortunate to come into this position with the Human Relations Committee report completed with over 30 recommendations that were compiled from the Middlebury community in 2006. I am using this report as a platform. It is important to note that this report is not an exhaustive list. I hope to bring my expertise to move forward on additional diversity initiatives at the College. Part of my job now is to determine what recommendations we are going to endorse and how we are going to prioritize them. I will be communicating with the Middlebury community on the progress of these initiatives. There are three areas that I have identified within my seven weeks that I believe are important areas to work on immediately — diversity among the faculty and in the curriculum, redefining our harassment policy and making sure that it's clear and inclusive of all forms of harassment and that our protocol to deal with these critical incidents is sensitive, clear, and responsible. Finally, I hope to develop a center on campus that academically engages students and faculty with issues related to diversity and intercultural awareness of race, ethnicity, gender and religion. This place would be inter-disciplinary and academically vibrant. I am currently pulling together a faculty working group to support me in this effort.

TC: What made you choose diversity work? What prompted you to go into it?

SR: My personal background contributes greatly to how I perceive diversity. I am a first generation Dominican-American. My parents are from the Dominican Republic, my dad drove a New York City cab for 37 years and my mom was a secretary and factory worker. I am the first person in my immediate family to go to college. I never imagined as a high school student that I would someday earn my doctorate in clinical psychology from Duke University. Having the incredible opportunity to get an education at some of the most elite institutions in the country was life changing. My personal experience allowed me to devote my life's work to issues related to leadership and diversity. Most importantly, I wanted to be committed to the role of higher education in promoting both leadership and diversity in order to insure the most dynamically charged experience for every student and faculty member.

TC: What drove you to succeed and excel?

SR: My father only has a fourth-grade education from the Dominican Republic, but he is one of the wisest individuals and most savvy businessmen that I have ever known. He really inspired me to think boldly. I have been very blessed with strong mentors — one was Debbie Bial, who got me into the Posse Foundation, [a not-for-profit organization that selects outstanding leaders from urban public high school kids from inner cities to go away to college in diverse teams]. Another was a professor at Vanderbilt, who inspired me to pursue a doctorate in clinical psychology.

TC: If every student could do one thing towards building a more embracing campus, what could they do?

SR: I think it would be wonderful if every student would be courageous enough to speak what is unspoken here. I think that every student has the right to an education that goes beyond face value. Students should push beyond what they ever imagined as being a part of their reality or experience during their college education. Going through four years of Middlebury being comfortable means that you have cheated yourself out of an education, and the College has failed you. This is the one of the most exciting times of your lives. Why spend the entire time just being comfortable?

—Alina Levina, *Staff Writer*

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Dancing with myself

by Chi Zhang • photographs by Lizzy Zevallos

Last Sunday, Middlebury students were treated to a workshop given by Brian Green, a specialist of Hip-hop and house dance. The event was hosted by Middlebury's own RIDDIM World Dance Troupe and sought to expose the community to a style of dance that is familiar to most students yet less prevalent on campus.

editor's picks

28 Beyond Binaries: "Silent Choices"
Library room 201
4:30 p.m.

"Silent Choices" is a film that examines the impact of abortion on the lives of African American women by discussing both racial and reproductive politics. This film is sponsored by the Women's and Gender studies department and is presented as part of the Beyond Binaries film-series.

02 Hotel Rwanda
Dana Auditorium
4:30 p.m.

"Hotel Rwanda" tells the story of an ordinary man who managed to summon the courage to save the lives of over a thousand helpless refugees. Be sure to see the film before Paul Rusesabagina, the living legend behind the film, speaks at Mead Chapel on Saturday, March 3 at 7 p.m.

Dick Forman Jass Group 03
CFA Concert Hall 8 p.m.

Led by Dick Forman on piano, the ensemble features Michael Zsoldos, sax, Paul Asbell, guitar, Jim Daggs, bass and Bob Lemnah, drums. Both Forman and Asbell are members of Middlebury College's applied music faculty — join them Saturday night for everything from bebop to blues.

03 Dance Company of Middlebury
CFA 8 p.m.

The Dance Company of Middlebury premieres an evening-length work directed by Andrea Olsen, with a cast of student dancers. Music by Philip Hamilton '82, video by James Bruce '96, and text in collaboration with Julia Alvarez.

Hip-hop dance workshop pops and beguiles

Movement artist Brian Green delivers diversity through snappy steps

By Chi Zhang
Staff Writer

Most students slept in late after hours of ceaseless torso twisting at the Winter Carnival Ball. Others woke up to find themselves face to face with a different form of rigorous club dancing — the juxtaposition must have been quite striking.

The Hip-hop & House workshop, hosted by the RIDDIM World Dance Troupe and co-sponsored by the Inter-Commons Countil and the Dance Department, attracted an array of students. Some were clad in tights, others in baggies, but very few knew exactly what was in store for them. As workshop participants Kate Leyland '07 and Christina Winkler '07 said, "We heard there was a hip-hop workshop, and we came." Nevertheless, "hip-hop" is exactly the misnomer that instructor Brian "Footwork" Green set out to dismiss, together with the other popular, commercialized images associated with the dance form.

The affable New York-based artist is experienced in both the commercial dance business and the street style. As he demonstrated the two styles, knowing grins spread across the studio. The difference was easy to spot: the street style is less ostentatious, less outpouring, but a lot more vigorous and fulfilling.

As the story goes, visceral awareness does not only belong to such sacrosanct arts as yoga and contact improvisation — this funky dance form has its share of anatomical prerequisites. The students learned this the hard way as they struggled to rotate the trapezium muscle and to locate their "inner stomach."

This was, however, only the beginning of the challenge. Students gasped as Green performed a snippet of "popping" — the robot-like movements that did not seem quite humanly doable, and in no way resembled a "hip-hop" dance. The first step to producing the popping effect was to tense and relax the arm muscles, which proved to be a physical conundrum to most. Green stressed to the bewildered students that diligent practice is the key, as the students jerked and twitched in the attempt to "pop it."

The exhilarating music and Green's personality kept the spirits high enough for a series of other difficult but entertaining moves to make their way into the students' dance vocabulary. The Fresno, twistoflex, neckoflex, old man and the original moonwalk were all buzzwords that together created a dynamic mesh wire of force and lightness. The original moonwalk, for example, literally mimicked the weightlessness experienced while walking on the moon, unlike the later version we are all more familiar with, which was modified by Michael Jackson.

The time devoted to teaching House, though shorter than planned, was sufficient to paint a basic outline of this footwork-based dance, which was otherwise relatively alien to most present. It was a test of agility for experienced and novice dancers alike. Eyes were pinned to the floor as Green's beige-colored street shoes swished adroitly in a blurry of frenzy. It was strenuous trying to keep up with the movement of the feet, but taking a liking to the dance was effortless. Leyland, among others, identified House to be "very difficult but really cool."

Exchange student Momoko Kitamichi first brought the House tradition to the MIDDance fall concert, which received highly positive comments. With Green's workshop, this charismatic dance could be expected to grow in popularity among the Middlebury dance community.

The best learning point came at the end of the class, when the Q&A session turned into a casual expression of Green's outlook on life and the world. With his mastery of more than ten dance styles ranging from ballet, jazz and tap to West African, salsa and Irish, Green is himself an exemplification of diversity and multiculturalism. At one point, he showed one House step and its variations in six other dances, convincing the students of the connection among different genres of dance.

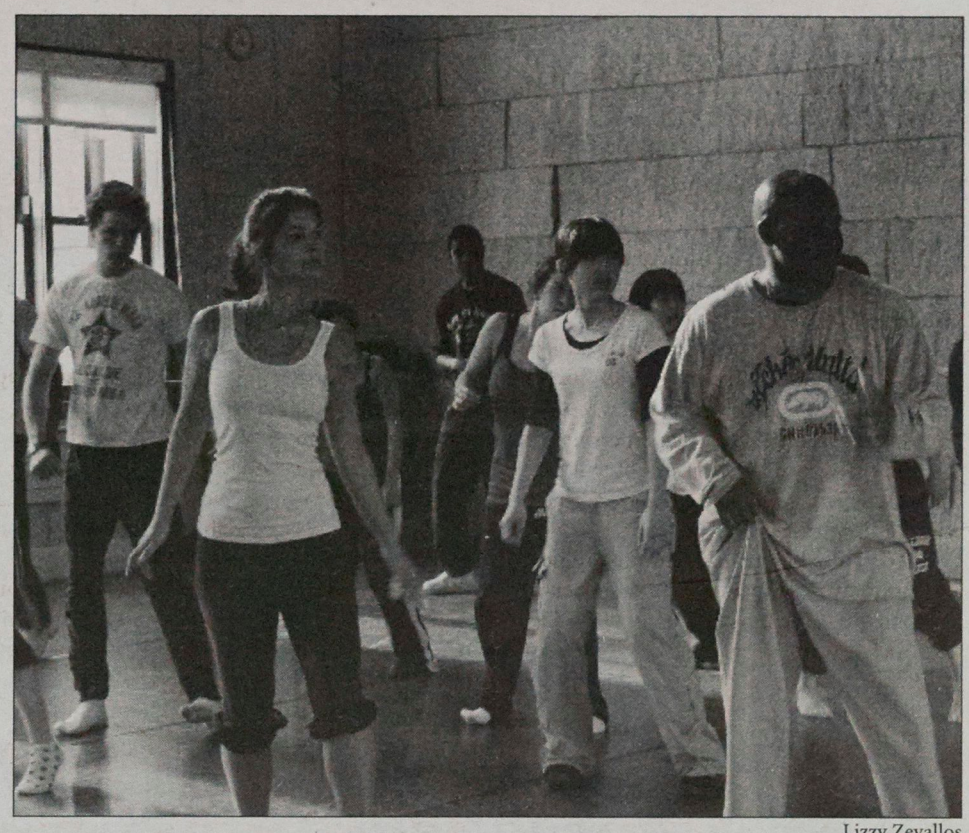
When asked about how he balances so many forms of dance, Green responded, "I dance each dance as if I were living a part of my life. Dance and life are intertwined."

York Seaton '07, a RIDDIM member who initiated the workshop, said, "I wanted people to see it, do it, appreciate it and be interested to pursue it on their own."

As Seaton hoped, students at the workshop expressed joy at discovering new forms of dancing. Diana Chiu '09, a member of MIDDance, acknowledged the collaborative effort it took to "bring such dances and personality to an isolated campus."

"Just last night we were still out there party dancing," Chiu said. "Now we have learned to move in a different way."

Lizzy Zevallos
In sweats and pajamas, students shook off their sleepiness during a Sunday afternoon workshop.



Lizzy Zevallos
Students had to pay rapt attention in order not to miss Green's lightening quick steps.

Culture extended to the community

Lizzy Zevallos
As a precursor to Thursday night's later events, various Middlebury a capella groups treated locals and students alike with a free performance showcasing their superb vocal talent.

This past Thursday, the Center for the Arts hosted a buffet of Middlebury artistic talent. Strolling through the beautiful, yet poorly designed building, one could catch snippets of student performances. In the Concert Hall, various a capella groups shook the rafters, including the highly-acclaimed and highly-attractive Dissipated Eight, while The Flying Fists Juggling Brigade, Middlebury's own student-run organization dedicated to reviving the art of juggling, was very well-received. Other events directed at the younger crowd included a story-time and decorative mask making.

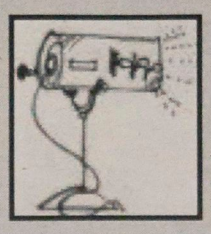
Regrettably, organization of these events was slightly lacking. When the activities got underway; however, they proved to be successes.The story selection included such classics as *Chika Chika Boom Boom* and *The Rainbow Fish*. Unfortunately, the coordinator seemed to have a difficult time holding the children's attention, and story-time ended after one tale. The books still remained on display, however, and occasionally a curious youngster would flip through one.

The mask-making appeared to be a lost art as it was scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. but did not actually start assembly until 5:30 p.m. However, once the table and supplies were arranged, kids thoroughly enjoyed creating head-gear in the carnival spirit. Fortunately, light desert, coffee, and hot chocolate was provided to appease the parents and distract their offspring while the event was hurriedly assembled.

The Museum of Art also extended it hours to visitors. While waiting between acts, individuals examined the many impressive exhibits currently on display, including the applauded "Turning Back: A Photographic Journal of Re-exploration," which features the work of photographer Robert Adams.

While the event was supposed to last from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. as a precursor to "Around the World in 80 Minutes," the first major event to kick-off the college's 84th annual Winter Carnival, most activites panned out around 6 p.m. Still, the Cultural Gala proved to be an enjoyable family outing before the highly anticipated ice show.

Even though the collection of events seemed somewhat haphazard, it was pleasant to see the College attempting to include the local community in this celebrated tradition.



Spotlight on... Amanda Kleinman

Amanda Kleinman '09 is a joint Music and History major from Texas. She has already made an impressive mark on the vibrant Middlebury College arts community through her involvement with musical theatre. She took a few moments to talk with* The Campus *about her past experiences and future endeavors.

Nirvana Bhatia

***The Middlebury Campus:* What has been the most rewarding aspect of your involvement with and commitment to the arts?**

Amanda Kleinman: Being involved in so many different aspects of musical life here has provided me with constant exposure to diverse types of music, from opera to musical theater to choral music to Bob Dylan (I took the J-term class; it was awesome.). I really appreciate gaining versatility and growing as an artist as a result of such a varied exposure to music.

***TC:* What have been your favorite activities? Your most challenging activities?**

AK: I've loved the opportunities I've had to sing opera. Performing in a Monteverdi opera last spring was an incredible experience, and I've also enjoyed singing arias and duets at recitals. I think the most challenging, but also some of the most rewarding, parts of my musical education, have been learning about all the aspects of music that have nothing to do with being on the stage, from music theory to music directing to all the production aspects of a musical.

***TC:* What do you think of the Music Department in general? How have the professors helped/hindered you in reaching your goals?**

AK: I feel so lucky to have found the music department here. First of all, I think it is very rare to find a music department and musicians of this caliber, particularly at a liberal arts school. I've loved the flexibility, support and personal attention that come from being a student in a small department with a lot of resources and incredible professors and private instructors. They've really provided a supportive environment to try new things and take risks.

***TC:* How has trying completely new things such as piano or conducting shaped you as a musician? Do you feel that you learned anything new about music and working with others?**

AK: I've loved learning about new aspects of music, such as music directing, conducting, and playing the piano. Conducting "Urinetown" was definitely the most different and challenging thing I've done musically here. Actually conducting a show was definitely an intense and fast way to learn about conducting, and I'm really glad I had the opportunity to work with an orchestra. I couldn't have done it without such supportive instrumentalists, though — they were incredibly patient and helpful.

***TC:* Tell me about your involvement with the Middlebury College Musical Players.**

AK: My first semester at Middlebury, I was in the cast of "Little Shop of Horrors." After the show, I decided I wanted to expand my understanding of what goes into putting on a show, so I was the co-music director of Into the Woods the next semester. I so enjoyed becoming involved in the production aspects of musical theater that I ended up producing, music directing, and conducting "Urinetown" last semester. I've learned a great deal about putting on a show and I have also learned a lot about music that I didn't know before. However, the most interesting thing I learned is that watching other people perform a show you've helped them to create can be just as rewarding as being on the stage yourself. I'm so impressed with the growth MCMP experiences each semester, and I look forward to future shows continuing to become better and better.

***TC:* What are your upcoming artistic projects?**

AK: Currently, I'm producing MCMP's spring show, "Little Women." The cast, crew and production team are fantastic, and the show is really taking shape. Next year, I'm hoping to study music abroad in Argentina and in Israel. And, in a couple of years, watch for a senior work of some sort — maybe an opera.

TC:

AK: Wow, that's a tough one. I guess all I can do is work toward becoming the best musician I can be. While I can't say with any certainty what my future holds, I can say for sure that it will always involve music.

- Sara Jameson

I've got my Eighties Crush

Middlebury students continued the Winter Carnival tradition of throwing down '80s style to Orange Crush on Thursday night in McCullough Hall. Orange Crush, whose members hail from Springfield, MA, is fully committed to covering everyone's favorite '80s tunes — from the Beastie Boys to Twisted Sister. Their website claims that they are "legendary" all over New England — a claim that seems relatively believable when compared to their legendary status at Middlebury.

for the record

by Melissa Marshall

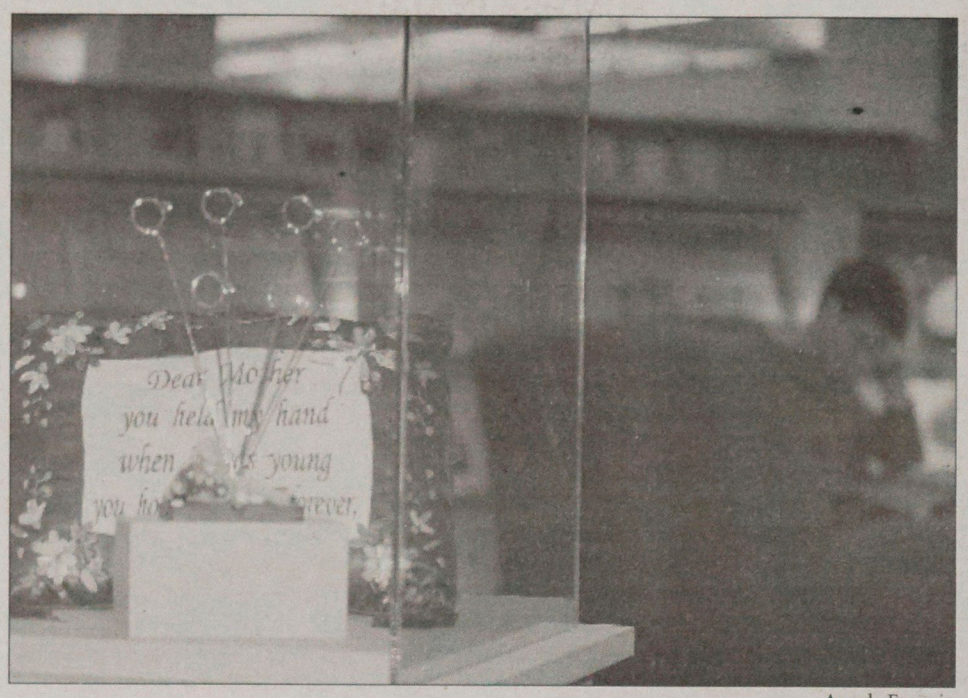
I think the conversation may have been re-ignited when I was putting on a dress that completely inhibited breathing and three-inch heels in preparation to slide and swing to cheesy albeit wiggle-inspiring covers at this year's Winter Carnival. Certainly, "The Vagina Monologues," which was performed earlier this month, reminded me of my neglect, but it was through busting moves with my fellow gender in footwear that would make even the most heartless medieval torturer gleeful, that I reunited with my "vajayjay." Since I had already embraced my womanhood publicly on the dance floor, I decided that it was time to reconnect on a more personal level — my ipod. Nothing is more personal than somebody's music collection. It's kinda like the underwear drawer of a person's personality — there's going to be something sexy, something exciting and something embarrassing. And while going through my mp3 player, I discovered a few female artists who I have definitely under-worn.

With strumming acoustics, smoky vocals and a crop of unruly hair, Kris Delmhorst is the epitome of innocuous female folk-rock. Reminiscent of Joni Mitchell and Joan Baez, her songs have a certain intimacy interlaced in the delicate notes and wavering words that urge a second listen even though many of the tracks are indistinguishable from one another. Kris Delmhorst's 2006 third full-length release, *Strange Conversation*, is like a pair of worn, pink cotton briefs — by no means is it cutting-edge or remarkably memorable, but it has one quality that is indispensable: comfort. Delmhorst's songs, which are laced with an impressive array of literary allusions (some tracks are her emotional responses to certain works of poetry) create an audio blanket that is hard to crawl out from.

If you are feeling slightly more adventurous, you may want to slip into some lacy boy-shorts. Although less safe and conventional with their occasional hard-driving beats and lyrics that explore sexual license, the Montreal all femme five-piece Pony Up! still holds onto its virginal appeal with crystal-clear girlish vocals and an implied innocence in their inoffensive keyboard-laden tracks. Their first full length album *Make Love to the Judges with Your Eyes*, is an intimate balance between sexuality, maturity and purity — lead singer Laura Willis' childish, vibrato-free timbre penetrates the lucid beats with lyrics about desire on "Dance With Me" or heartbreak and loss on "The Best Offence." Even tracks with sunny rhythms such as "The Truth about Cats and Dogs," deal with darker subject matter, highlighting the paradoxical nature of the female psyche.

While the girls of Pony Up! mask their sexuality behind purrs, Karen O of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs allows hers to roar. As the powerful front-girl for the east-coast based art-punk band comprised of guitarist Nicolas Zinner and drummer Brian Chase, Karen O exudes the confidence and liberation of going commando. Although they may be best-known for their 2004 single "Maps," their 2006 release *Show Your Bones* is a complex arrangement of raw energy and brooding introspection. Ms. O explodes on the volatile "Déjà vu" while her multi-tonal vocals shine on "Turn Into," perhaps their best track to date. Although *Show Your Bones* may seem more indulgent than inventive for fans of the band's early years, their second full-length endeavor shows a shocking maturity and cohesiveness from a group that once bordered on garage-punk.

As I hobbled back from Kenyon Arena during the wee hours of Sunday morning, for once I didn't begrudge the boys their suit pants that offered considerably more coverage than my skirt. Instead, I twirled down College Street, reveling in the frigid Vermont air around my knees, until I was informed that I was displaying my music collection for the entire Middlebury College community. But, as these female artists teach us, being a girl is about embracing the bad as well as the good. And as I finally kicked off that last black pump, I didn't just feel good, I felt like a woman.



Angela Evancie

Melissa Marshall

The lower level of the library was transformed into a museum of ecelectic and somewhat tacky remnants of current American culture as part of a project conceived by a first-year seminar.

Exhibit explores the secret life of knick-knacks

By Colin Foss
Staff Writer

Walking through the bottom floor of the main library, you might notice a strange phenomenon: inside glass cases, resting on largish pedestals, there are assortments of little trinkets, mundane baubles that seemingly hold no aesthetic value beyond the fact that they are presented much like some famous author's first manuscript and protected like the queen's jewels. A nearby plaque helps to explain why such treatment is given to these banal objects d'art.

Director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art and Walter Cerf Professor Richard Saunders and the students of his 2006 first-year seminar, Searching for America in Contemporary Visual Culture, are behind this exhibition of unlikely art. The class focused on the visual portrayal of American culture through objects found in any common American home and the special value that Americans give to these objects.

The exhibit supposes that household "things" are relevant to us as art not because of their intrinsic value, but instead because of the exceptional insight they give us into the desires of American consumers.

In his explanation of the choice objects in the exhibit Saunders writes, "Much less obvious, however, are the factors that underlie these buying decisions. Most of what we acquire is not literally necessary to survive, as it is niether food, clothing, nor shelter. In fact, some of these purchases may have much more to do with our own self-image, a longing for identity with a group and the need to personalize our environment. Some of these complicated and overlapping motivations are explored here in a visual snapshot of America in 2006."

Throughout the exhibit room, there are red folders that are marked in curvy type "Searching for America," and bearing the appearance of a photo album or even a scrapbook — two objects commonly found lying around American households. Instead of finding inside an account of a particular family trip, there is an itemized list of the objects in the exhibit, along with extensive commentary on their significance. The traditional history of Easter, for example, accompanies the description of a large Easter bunny statue that would stand in one's front yard for passers-by to see. The history of this image seems out of place in this exhibit; the true iconography of each object is lost as it is assimilated into modern American culture, given cute whiskers, and forced to cradle a pastel egg in its arm.

Professor Saunders and his class are aware of the evolution of tradition into commercialism. On close inspection, you can see that each object in the collection – from the birdfeeder lighthouse to the vacuum cleaner cover that resembles a little maid – still carries its price tag. Even the pragmatic value of some objects is lost, as is the case with the rain gauge whose base is water-soluble.

> The exhibit supposes that household 'things' are relevant to us as art ... because of the exceptional insight they give us into the desires of the American consumers.

The aesthetic value of these objects is the key to understanding why anyone would want to buy anything that has lost all of its practicality and its traditional significance. All of these objects represent a cultural identity that buyers want to feel a part of. The American desire to possess is reflected in the fact that we need separate storage facilities to stash our stuff when our home becomes overburdened.

Possession and forgotten tradition is nowhere more perfectly balanced than in one item in particular on display in this exhibit: the "maid" vacuum cleaner cover. As the object's description explains, this cover "gives the luxury of a maid without having to employ one," a practice with has indeed fallen out of feasibility for most households. The cover also allows the vacuum cleaner to be left out of a closet, which frees up storage space for the ever-increasing volume of domestic trinkets.

"Searching for American" succeeds in raising questions of contemporary American identity and its provenance, while emphasizing the rise of consumerism and its effect. We take an item, discard its traditional value, sometimes lose sight of its purpose, and eventually transform it into a trinket. Taking their part in the metamorphosis of American identity, Saunders and his class take it one step further in putting these trinkets under glass cases and transforming them into art.

Searching for America is on display in the Harmon Periodicals Reading Room in the Main Library until March 25th.

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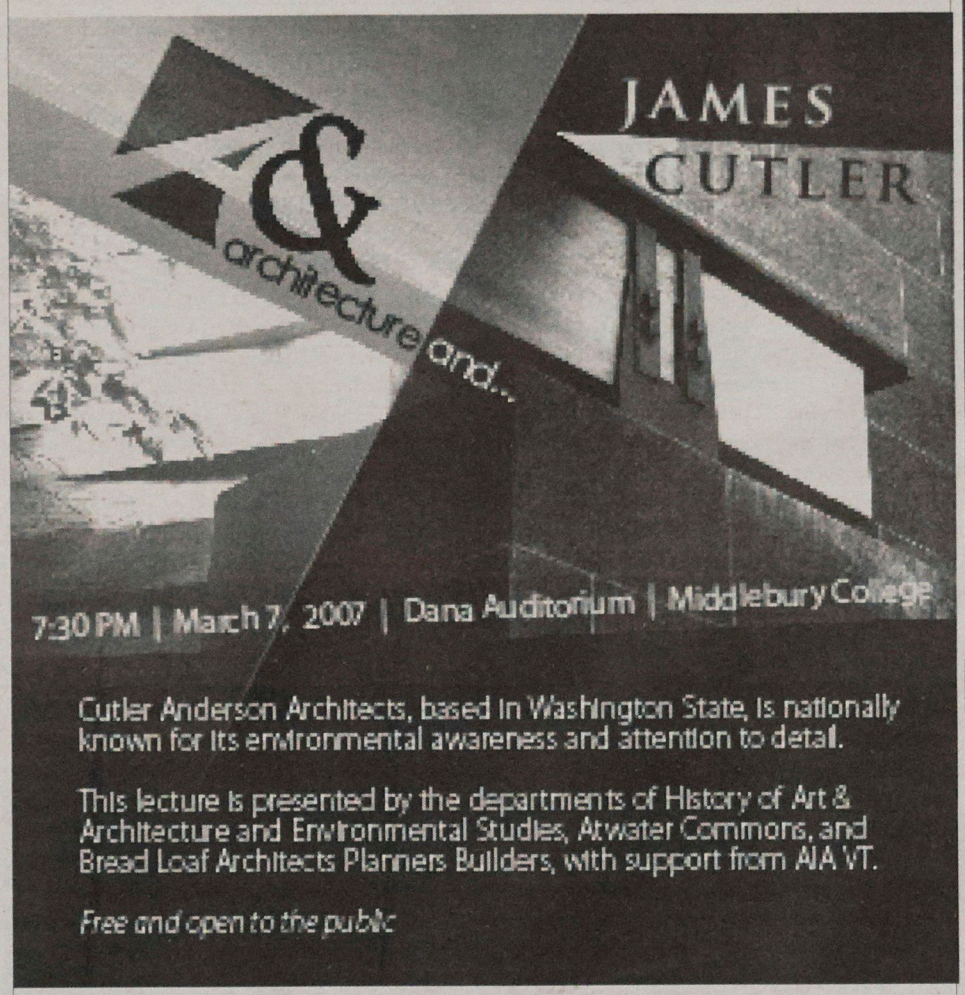

Cutler Anderson Architects, based in Washington State, is nationally known for its environmental awareness and attention to detail.

This lecture is presented by the departments of History of Art & Architecture and Environmental Studies, Atwater Commons, and Bread Loaf Architects Planners Builders, with support from AIA VT.

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Green teams (Dartmouth, UVM) were money in the Nordic events

By Geoff Homer
Staff Writer

Under cold but clear skies, the Nordic ski team placed third overall as they hosted the Middlebury Carnival at the Carroll and Jane Rikert Ski Touring Center. The Winter Carnival doubled as the Eastern Championships, and was the last opportunity for the skiers to get a bid to the NCAAs, which will be hosted by the University of New Hampshire on the second weekend of March.

In the women's 5K freestlye skate, Cassidy Edwards '09 led the Panthers with a fifth place showing, 23 seconds behind winner Sara Studebaker of Dartmouth. Captain Jenny Hamilton '07 was seven seconds back in sixth place. Robyn Anderson '09 rounded out Middlebury's top three with a seventeenth place showing.

Later that day, the men raced in the 10K free. Simi Hamilton '09 equaled his sister's placing, leading the Panthers with a sixth place effort. Jimmy Ades '08 finished 19th, while Tim Reynolds '09 came across the line in 20th.

Captain Chris Rodgers '07, participating in his last Carnival, skied very well despite almost skiing into a stream. A skier alongside Rodgers took a dip and nearly took Rodgers with him.

On Saturday the women competed in the 15K classic. Edwards and Hamilton were the top two women for Middlebury, finishing in seventh and eighth. Right behind was Anderson in tenth, while first-year Claire Luby ended an impressive rookie campaign with an eleventh place showing.

On the men's side, Simi Hamilton continued his strong season as he equaled his sixth place effort in the 20K Classic, a little more than a minute behind Michael Sinnot of Dartmouth. Reynolds placed 23rd while Ades was 25th.

The men had a tough weekend, as their best overall team score was fourth — well off of the norm for what they have become accustomed to this season. The women skied well, finishing third on Friday while coming in second on Saturday.

Both teams were unable to stave off Dartmouth, whose Nordic team dominated the 2007 season, enabling the Big Green to win all six Carnivals of the season.

The fun continued, thoug, after the Nordic races, as the Nordic teams staged an exhibition sprint relay at the Snow Bowl in front of the base lodge after the completion of the alpine races. The Hamilton siblings, Simi and Jenny, captured the event in thrilling fashion.

Despite the conclusion of the Carnival season, the ski season is not even close to being over; the NCAAs at Attitash Bear Peak in N.H. and the Junior Nationals still remain.

Jeff Patterson

On Saturday, Feb. 24, Cassidy Edwards '09 (left) and Simi Hamilton '09 (middle) finished seventh and sixth respectively at the Rikert Ski Touring Center. Even though they did not win their races, they did manage a better job of braving the cold conditions, as their faces remained frost-free, unlike UVM's Ryan Kerrigan (right).

Alpine skiers growl at the Snow Bowl

Continued from page 24

involved for Wagner, though, as he came in through the finish with the fastest second-run time. The second-run win, paired with the win for the first run, left Wagner in first for the day's overall results and served as a strong point additive to the cumulative men's team's results for the GS event.

"It was an awesome day of ski racing and to win with my parents and friends there was just the icing on the cake," said Wagner. Close behind Wagner was Alec Tarberry '08, who finished fourth and Joey Swenson '08, who came in ninth.

Dartmouth secured its predictable first position. Following impressive finishes in both the GS (second) and slalom (third) on the part of Michael Ann Shields, the team finished the weekend with 928.5 points. UVM shone as a testament to consistency, taking home the weekend's silver with 858 total points, following notable performances by Kara Crow (second in the slalom) and Greg Hardy (first in the slalom).

The weekend's achievements solidified the team in its third-place overall position. The team and coaches agree that the strong finishes from individual athletes will serve as helpful preparations for the NCAA Championships March 7-10, which will be hosted at Attitash Bear Peak.

Jeff Patterson

One gate gave the skiers problems in the slalom. Just ask Bates' James Pelletier.

Jeff Patterson

Alec Tarberry '08 finished 27th in the slalom, but fourth in the giant slalom, only 0.87 seconds behind winner and fellow teammate, Andrew Wagner '09.

Men lay their Ephs to rest

Continued from page 24

time we lost," said Beaney.

The team will embark for the Pine Tree State on Friday, giving them plenty of time to prepare for the 4 p.m. face-off on March 3 with the Mules, who beat Connecticut College 5-1 to advance. The Mules have one of the top offenses in the NESCAC with four of the top 10 points leaders in the league, including number one, Greg Osborne, and number three, Arthur Fritch.

The Panthers, on the other glove, have the best scoring defense in the league, an honor they have held every year the league has kept statistics, allowing only 2.42 goals per game. Something will have to give.

If the Panthers wants to remain National Champs, they pretty much have to find a way to win in Maine.

No one really knows four sure

Continued from page 24

conferences within the division have become more and more verbal in the past several years, with lesser-known organizations calling for the split.

With the proposed new subdivision, schools that favor a wider array of sports and more restrained recruiting practices would be separated from those favoring strong, popular sports and relaxed recruiting parameters. Still, many members of Division III cannot reach an agreement.

Liebowitz maintained that the well-rounded excellence of schools such as Middlebury and the other members of the NESCAC will continue to be the deciding factor in the minds of most recruits.

"Great student-athletes in D-III are not seeking professional athletic careers, and so the quality of the academics at their chosen school is likely to be very important in their ultimate decision," he said in an e-mail.

As a result, he remains confident that Middlebury's prowess in both the academic and athletic realms would be largely unaffected should a separation occur.

But the unrest has grown to the point that at the most recent President's Convention for Division III schools, two committees were established, each charged with drafting a model of a possible split. However, there was a lot of confusion among many athletic directors.

Middlebury's Athletic Director Erin Quinn sat at the conference and his perceptions of the push for a new division were cautious. In a phone interview, Quinn said that he was, "a little bit surprised to see President [of Franklin and Marshall College] John Fry's time-table for specific legislation. It is certainly not an issue with a quick fix. There are a lot of difficult situations and there really isn't a good 'cookie-cutter' solution to it."

The issues presented at the conference are worth examination, Quinn conceded, but the idea that the division faces an imminent and unavoidable separation is confusing. Most of the schools in the NESCAC that have verbalized a stance on the issue echoed these sentiments, and Quinn sees a reason for that.

"Some of the reforms that are being discussed or that will be discussed are reflective of things we already do in the NESCAC," said Quinn. "If some schools wanted to initiate reforms that cause a split, questions arise over who remains D-III and who becomes D-IV, and countless other issues."

As for Middlebury, the future will likely play out as it has in the past. Most of the reforms proposed concerning academic restrictions and recruiting practices are already enacted by NESCAC regulations, so a move from one division to the other would not affect the manner in which sports and academics are approached.

However, Quinn saw several potential obstacles should the split occur.

"Middlebury and the NESCAC [schools] have shown a great balance of being able to be one of the premier academic schools in the country while at the same time maintaining a premier athletics program as well," he said.

In the case of a split, that internal balance would most likely remain unaltered due to the self-imposed and conference-imposed constraints levied at the Middlebury athletics program. But outside the school and the conference, there might be headaches. The geographic location of Middlebury has a significant impact on the opponents.

"We're not from Boston or Hartford, where you have a whole bunch of schools to choose from," said Quinn. Though Middlebury sports teams will, "drive as far as they need to play conference opponents because that's what you do, the well-rounded schedules we can generate with out-of-conference games could become an issue." This will be especially true if half the traditional regional competition is no longer in the same division.

Middlebury's athletic department has not formulated an official stance on the issue as of yet, but Quinn said he and the majority of the coaches are on the same page.

"Most of us feel comfortable competing at the current D-III level because we have a niche academically with our types of schools," he said.

The student-athletes who comprise Middlebury's teams were similarly skeptical.

"Even though it wouldn't change the games that were played, there would probably be a stigma attached to a championship title that would discourage a lot of student athletes from choosing D-IV schools," said Danny Haluska '10, a cornerback on the football team.

As a prospective student, Haluska said he was attracted to Middlebury by the tandem of athletic and academic prowess for which the school is well respected. However, Haluska said he "could definitely see high school seniors choosing another place to play sports to avoid playing in a 'sub-division.'"

Kerry Reilly, a first-year varsity field hockey player, saw the issue the same way.

"I feel like a new division, if there ends up being one, is automatically going to be considered sub-standard to the original Division III organization," said Reilly. "I mean, what school would want to be a part of a start-up division when there is already an established division available?"

Quinn was confident that even if a split occurred, the NESCAC's athletics in general, and Middlebury's in particular, would remain largely unchanged.

Men wage water war on Williams

By Allison Ortega
Staff Writer

Over Winter Carnival weekend, the men's Middlebury swimming and diving team headed to Bowdoin's Leroy Greason Pool for the grueling three-day NESCAC Championships. Waiting there was the four-time defending champion Williams, who had provided the lone blemish on Middlebury's otherwise perfect season.

On the first day of competition, the Ephs were eager to add yet another trophy to their mantel, as they grabbed both relay events and added two individual titles. Not to be outdone, Coach Peter Solomon's squad swam strongly too.

Captain Tim Lux '07 placed second in the 50-yard breaststroke and fellow captain Rob Collier '07 brought home his first of three individual NESCAC crowns in the 200-yard individual relay. Lux and Collier then teamed up with Zach Woods '09 and Schuyler Beeman '10 to finish second in the 400-yard medley relay.

Brooks Farrar '10 provided additional excitement as he upset pre-tournament favorite Connor Boyd of Amherst in the one-meter diving competition. "I concentrated on what I was doing and not on what my competitors were doing," he said after his victory. "I wasn't going to let myself get intimidated by someone else's performance."

In the team competition, however, the Ephs built a substantial lead. On day two of competition, Collier started his day in the 200 medley relay, joining with Woods, Beeman and Peter Bell '08 for a second-place finish. Then in the 100-yard butterfly, Collier won his second individual title with a time of 49:85, which set new school and NESCAC records.

Woods started the final day with a second place finish in the 200-yard backstroke. Collier followed with another record-setting swim in the 200-yard fly. His 1:50.39 time again set school and NESCAC records.

Meanwhile, Farrar completed his sweep in the NESCAC diving events and claimed victory in the three-meter competition. For Farrar the triumph was particularly rewarding, because he has battled injury all season. "I've had a rough season with my left shoulder injury — I'm getting surgery done on it over spring break — but I knew I had gotten to the finals of NESCACs because I worked hard all season and deserved to be there," he said.

Collier then capped off his extraordinary weekend in the meet's final event by teaming with Beeman, Kevin O'Rourke '10 and John Rayburn '06.5 for a second-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Despite Collier's incredible efforts, the Panthers were unable to catch the Ephs, who claimed their fifth straight NESCAC championship victory.

"Although the team was short in numbers this year, we still had many amazing performances by everyone on the team, which let other teams know we will be a force to reckon with in the near future," said Farrar.

editors' picks

Questions of the week:	*Brooke Farquhar*	*Simon Keyes*	*Jeff Patterson*
Who will score more goals in their NESCAC tournaments this weekend, Men's or Women's Hockey?	MEN'S HOCKEY The men had five goals vs. Williams, while the women only had four vs. Plattsburgh. Plus, I heard Jack Kinder '09 just got a new stick.	WOMEN'S HOCKEY 99 to 86: The number of goals the women have scored this year as opposed to the number of goals the men have scored.	MEN'S HOCKEY In Brunswick, Beaney's boys will go on a scoring binge, beating both Colby and host Bowdoin by big margins.
Who wins the March 2nd installment of the most heated rivalry in college basketball, Duke or UNC?	UNC After an intense loss Sunday night to Maryland, UNC is out to prove that the Blue Devils are not on their Heels in the run for the number one spot in the ACC.	UNC Duke will clean the diapers of UNC's Diaper Dandies, Brandan Wright, Ty Lawson, and Wayne Ellingon. But there is still Tyler Hansbrough to worry about.	UNC The Tar Heels will win in a track meet. As *Sports Illustrated* reported, every member of Carolina can run a sub-six minute mile, while Bobby Frasor and Quentin Thomas can do it in four.
Over/Under: Three, the number of Boston College Eagles hitters Dice-K Matsuzaka k's in his first spring training start.	OVER Three: Are you kidding me? $52 million over six years? He better have more than three strikeouts.	OVER The BC players will have a story worth telling the grandkids later: "Once, in college, I struck out against Dice-K and the legendary 'gyroball.'"	UNDER Matsuzaka will get a lot of ground ball outs, but will not throw enough pitches to strike out four BC batters.
record:	**1-2 (Punch)**	**2-4 (.333)**	**20-20 (Perfect Vision)**

As Told by A.S.

By Andrew Schlegel

The NBA Draft has always been a menace to NCAA basketball. Fans and commentators alike have thought that the competition of college basketball is destroyed when the premiere players leave school early to play professionally.

Before the most recent NBA draft, many of the top college programs were losing, not only their best players to the Draft, but also their top recruits who were deciding to skip college altogether.

To prevent players from going straight to the NBA, the league instituted a rule stating players must be 19 and at least one year removed from high school in order to enter the Draft. This has drastically improved the competition in college basketball.

The most noticeable case is the Ohio State Buckeyes who recruited Greg Oden, who, before the Draft rule, was expected to be the number one pick, but was forced to play one year in college.

Now Ohio State is ranked number one in the country for the first time since 1962, when they were on a run of three straight Final Fours. And the team leader and premiere big man in college basketball is the first-year, seven-footer Oden. He is also the team leader in points, rebounds and blocks per game, despite the fact that he has had to play most of the season shooting free throws with his left hand.

It is not only the first-years, who were prohibited from entering the NBA draft, that have made the level of play in college basketball better, but also the older players who decided not to enter the draft.

The major players that come to mind are Arron Afflalo of the number two-ranked UCLA Bruins and Joakim Noah of the number four-ranked Florida Gators. Both decided to pass on the draft and stay with their teams in order to lead them to stellar seasons.

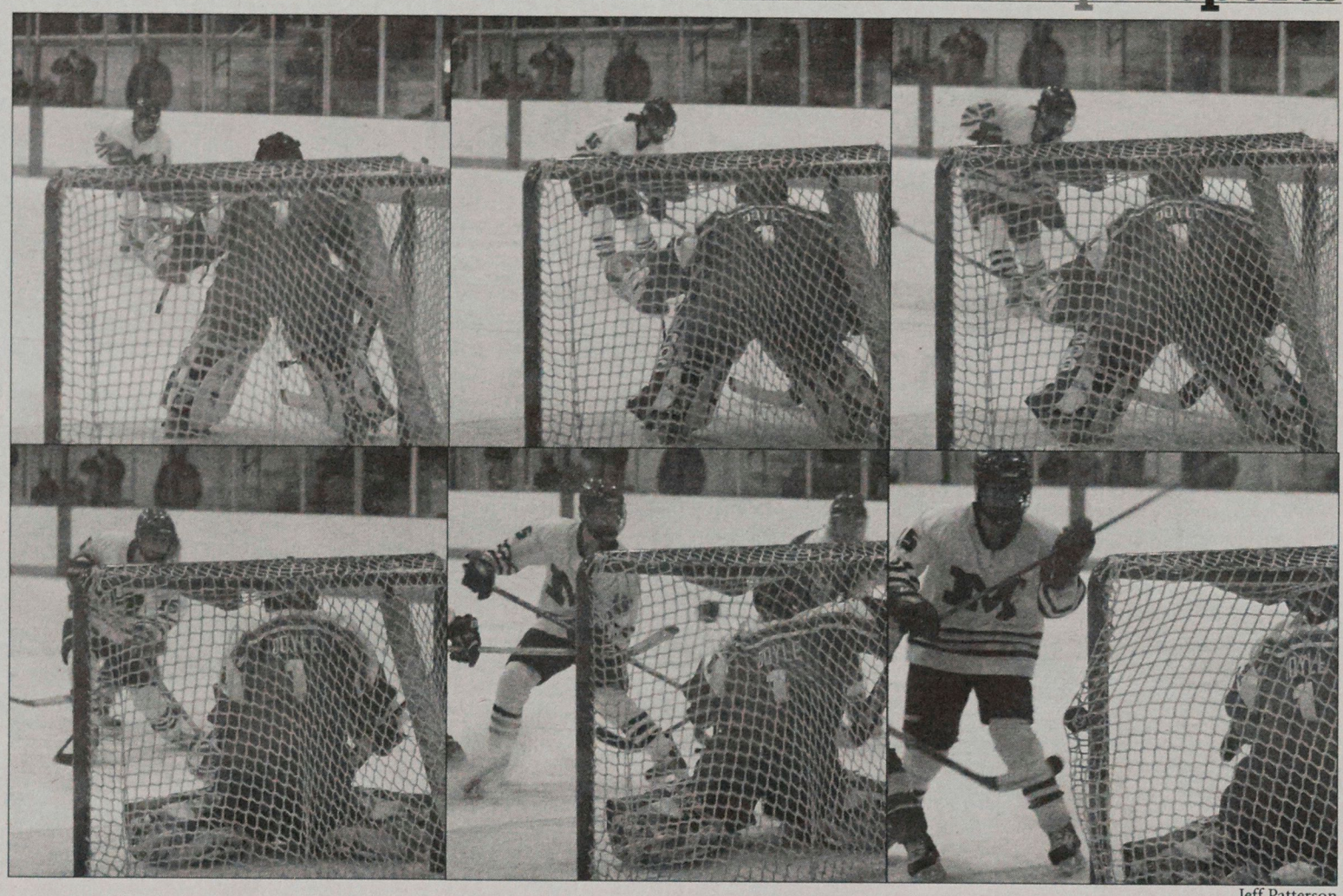
So far, Afflalo has led the Bruins to their first undefeated home season in 32 years. He also helped the Bruins clinch at least a share of the Pac-10 title for the second consecutive year.

As for Noah, he has led the Gators to a regular season Southeastern Conference championship, as well as a possible number-one seed come NCAA tournament time.

Diehard fans, commentators and even leisurely spectators have enjoyed watching a more competitive level of play that is likely a result of players playing an extra year of college ball.

But the question on many people's tongues is, "Will players like Oden, Afflalo and Noah go into the NBA Draft after this season?" If they want, they are still eligible to return to their schools.

The only ones who know the answer to this question are the players themselves. And though it would be nice to see them stay another year, it is not likely because they have already shown they are ready for the next level.



Jeff Patterson

Annmarie Cellino '09 scored a short-handed goal with 3:41 left in the third period to force overtime. But Plattsburgh won, beating Midd for the second time this year.

Overtime thriller was a killer for the Panthers

By Seth Miran
Staff Writer

The game was supposed to be played a week earlier, but two feet of snow fell from the sky on the original game day, postponing it until last Tuesday evening. The match-up was worth the wait, as the top-ranked Plattsburgh State Cardinals traveled across Lake Champlain and topped the second-ranked Middlebury Panthers 5-4 in overtime.

It certainly did not appear as though the game would be close — let alone go to overtime — at the outset of the game. Middlebury came out sluggish and sloppy, making mental mistakes as they struggled to keep up with the larger, more physical Cardinals. Plattsburgh showed no mercy as it played like the country's top team throughout the first period.

With a 5-on-3 advantage after two Panther penalties, the Cardinals' Ainsley Brien fired a shot from the left point that ricocheted off the right post to Claire O'Connor. O'Connor slid a pass to a wide-open Jessica Moreau who tapped the puck in the net for a 1-0 Plattsburgh lead.

Moreau's goal came with five seconds remaining on the first Panther penalty, meaning that the Cardinals still had a 5-on-4 advantage. Less than 21 seconds after the first goal, Danielle Blanchard skated in on Middlebury goalie Lani Wright '10 nearly uncontested. Blanchard slipped the puck past Wright to give Plattsburgh a 2-0 advantage.

The momentum briefly swung back in Middlebury's favor, however, when Shannon Tarrant '07 ripped a slap shot from the blue line past Plattsburgh goalie Breanne Doyle four minutes later. The goal was Tarrant's 100th career point, joining Captain Shannon Sylvester '07 as the second member of this senior class to achieve the remarkable feat.

But the emotional lift that Tarrant's goal provided was short-lived. A Panther turnover in the defensive zone led to a loose puck in front of the net that Amber Ellis slammed home for a 3-1 lead.

The end of the first period was welcome news to the Panthers, who seemed to lack confidence in the first against a Plattsburgh team that was playing exceptional hockey.

"The first period has been a weakness of ours all year," said Sylvester. "We've been getting away with not playing our best in the first up until Tuesday. There's no way we can play the best team in the country and beat them without playing a full 60 minutes. We learned that the hard way."

The Panthers regained their swagger in the second period, but not before a fourth Cardinal goal that led to Angie Todd '08 replacing Wright in net.

Good teams respond positively to adversity, however, and by that measure the 2007 women's hockey team is a great one. Heather McCormack '10 sparked the comeback by forcing a turnover and sliding the puck to classmate Ashley Bairos '10. Bairos then slipped a nifty pass to Annmarie Cellino '09, who hit a slap shot that trickled off Doyle's pads and into the net to make it 4-2.

One of the turning points of the game came when Todd made a spectacular save on a point-blank Plattsburgh shot from five feet away — it was one of her eight well-earned saves in what was a brilliant relief appearance.

The Panthers rode the momentum from Todd's save to close the gap to 4-3. Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07 floated the puck above the Plattsburgh net. It caromed off the glass to an eager Karen Levin '08, who slammed it home 8:57 into the second period.

The third period was mostly quiet until what can only be described as a fantastic individual effort by Cellino with 3:41 left in the game. Shorthanded, Cellino blocked a shot at her blue line, chased it down, took the perfect angle and deftly placed a chip shot gloveside over Doyle's shoulder with a calm and confidence that said, "I know I'm going to score and I dare you to stop me."

The game headed into overtime in spite of a few excellent scoring opportunities in the last three minutes for Plattsburgh. Unfortunately for Midd, Cardinal Shay Bywater snapped a shot into the top right corner past Todd 44 seconds into overtime to give Plattsburgh a 5-4 victory.

The game showed the Panthers that they can come back from a huge deficit, even against the best. They will come into this weekend's NESCAC tournament, which they will host, with a renewed focus.

"Hopefully the loss will increase our intensity for the upcoming NESCAC games," said Cellino. "A NESCAC championship is our only goal right now, and we just want to keep our minds on the game ahead of us."

BY THE NUMBERS

By Jeff Patterson, Sports Editor

6th	Ranked trail name that we, members of *The Campus*, have skied this year: Viper Pit (Killington). Interchange the words and you still have snakes on your mind.
5th	Ranked trail name that we have skied this year: Lady's Loop (Olympic Nordic Complex at Mt. Van Hoevenberg). Even though its hills were not ladylike, it was attractively curvaceous.
4th	Ranked trail name that we have skied this year: Creamery (Mad River Glen). Ski it if you can. It's butter.
3rd	Ranked trail name that we have skied this year: Battell (Rikert Ski Touring Center). It sure is a battle getting up that big beginning hill.
2nd	Ranked trail name that we have skied this year: Squeeze Play (Killington). Any reference to baseball really warms you up on the slopes.
1st	Ranked trail name that we have skied this year: Royal Flush (Killington). It wins in poker and in this competition.

Jeff Patterson

Plattsburgh's Shay Bywater scored the game-winner in overtime to win 5-4.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Marika Ross comes up for air to shoot the breeze with Brooke

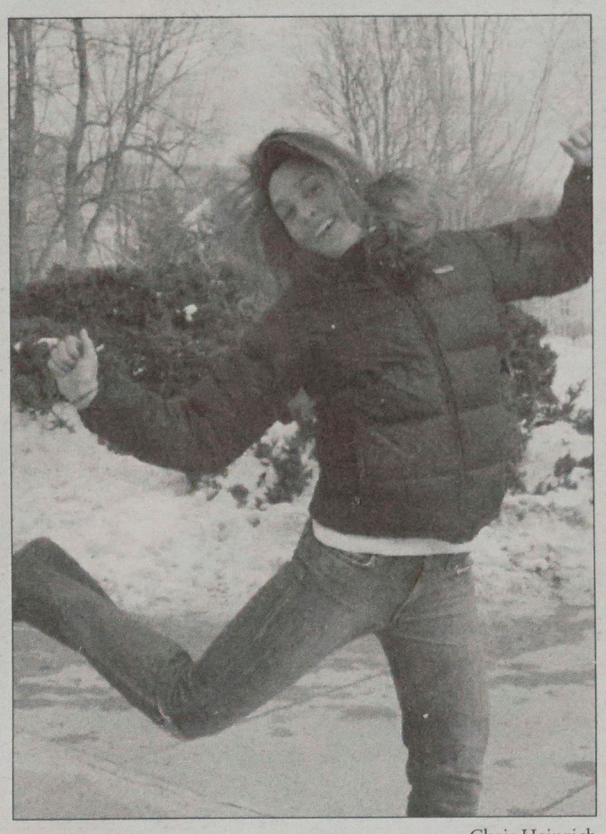
By Brooke Farquhar
Sports Editor

Marika Ross '08 is proving that the Great Lakes generate great swimmers. The junior from Shorewood, Wis. has so many honors that they could fill up this feature, if not the entire edition of this newspaper.

While her list of accomplishments is not short, Ross's favorite memory from team trips to Florida is when Robbie Burton '08 donned what she describes as, "the shortest shorts known to man" as part of their first-years skit.

Ross continues to make "freshmen" memories with first-year teammate Katie Remington '10, and in her position as a JC in Battell with Scotty Leighton '08.5. While most of us cannot imagine ever using the word "favorite" to describe anything related to Battell, Ross's favorite part of living there is that the vending machine is right down the hall.

Ross recently earned all-NESCAC honors in the 50-yard butterfly, 100-yard butterfly, 200-yard butterfly, 200-yard freestyle relay, 400-yard freestyle relay, 800-yard freestyle relay and 400-yard medley relay. While they certainly could not name all of Ross's achievements as a swimmer, how well can teammate Katie Remington '10 and fellow JC Scotty Leighton '08.5 match her responses in this edition of Inside the Locker Room?



Chris Heinrich
Marika Ross '08 is excited to be "Inside the Locker Room."

Teammate vs. Co-JC

	Ross	Remington	Leighton
Which is better: Wisconsin cheddar or Vermont Cabot?	Wisconsin Cheddar, obviously.	Wisconsin Cheddar. (1)	Easily, Wisconsin Cheddar. (1)
At what age did you leave the baby pool?	Five years old.	Three or Four. (0)	She's never left the baby pool. (0)
Sharks and Minnows or Marco Polo?	Sharks and Minnows.	Sharks and Minnows. (1)	Marco Polo because he's historical. (0)
Is there any sport you wish you knew how to play?	Anything that involves hand-eye coordination.	Basketball. (1)	The game of love.(0)
What Valentine's Day candy did you eat the most of in the past two weeks?	Sweet Tart Hearts.	Chocolate. (0)	She didn't have a valentine... (0)
What is your favorite snack or food-consumed-in-mass-amounts after practice?	Anything with butter.	Butter, anything with butter. (1)	Eight paninis on a bed of chicken parm. (0)
In which movie did Brad Pitt give his best performance?	"Legends of the Fall."	"Ocean's 11." (0)	"Meet Joe Black." (0)
final score...		4	1

Swimmer and Wisconsin native Marika Ross '08 loves her dairy. Her preference of Wisconsin cheddar cheese, her obsession with butter and her favorite stroke of the butterfly reveals there is no mistaking that this girl is from America's Dairyland.

There's also no mistaking that her teammate knows her better. In a landslide 4-1 victory, Remington, also a Wisconsin native, lay out Leighton. It may be the home-state connection that landed Remington the win or it might be the fact that when talking about Ross, Remington openly admits, "I guess she's just pretty much my idol." Indeed, Remington's knowledge of Ross as a teammate, Wisconsiner(ite?), and idol eliminated the competition.

They say love conquers all, and if you don't believe it, look at Ross's performance at the NESCAC competition. At Williams on February 18th, Ross swam her favorite stroke in the 50 fly and conquered the old school and pool record with a time of 25.85.

She didn't stop there, as she also put up a new school, pool and NESCAC record in the 200 fly event with a time of 2:01.25. Ross is literally flying over established NESCAC records.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Feb. 24	M. Hockey	Williams	5-1 W	Sam Driver '08 led the Panthers with two goals and an assist in the win.
Feb. 20	W. Hockey	Plattsburgh	5-4 L (OT)	Karen Levin '08 netted a goal and had two assists in the heartbreaking loss.
Feb. 23-25	M. Swimming	NESCACs	4th	Rob Collier '07 swam away with three NESCAC individual titles.
Feb. 24	Indoor Track	New Englands	N/A	Beth Butler '07 set a school record in the 800 meter with a time of 2:16.13.
Feb. 23-24	Skiing	Middlebury Carnival	3rd	Andrew Wagner '09 won the GS in a combined time of 2:00.34.
Feb. 23-25	M. Squash	Nationals	2nd in flight, 26th overall	The team finishes as one of the highest ranked club teams in the country.

sportsbriefs

by Jeff Patterson

Butler '07 named all-New England

Senior track star Beth Butler set a new school record in the 800-meter run at the Open New England Championships last weekend, which were held at Boston University. Her time of 2:16.13 was good enough for seventh place in that race, 4.34 seconds behind the winner, the University of Maine's Hana Pelletier. The Bronxville, N.Y. native, Butler, earned two points for the Panthers in the team competition — their only points on the day — which vaulted them into 26th place in the team competition.

Butler's time bettered former Panther Kate Irvin's '01 time from 1999 by .01 seconds. Butler was later honored as an all-New England selection for her impressive finish in the race.

The '07 indoor track season has been very successful for Butler, who has finished second in the 800 at the D-III New Englands on Feb. 17 and first at the M.I.T. Invitational on Feb. 10.

Cross country team receives rings

During the first intermission of the men's hockey game against Williams on Feb. 24, eight members of the women's cross country team, the '06 Division III National Champions, were honored on the ice.

Athletic Director Erin Quinn presented each runner and team coaches Terry Aldrich and Nicole Wilkerson with their championship rings. The 2,175 fans in Kenyon Arena showed their support with loud, steady applause.

Back on Nov. 18, the Panthers edged the Amherst Lord Jeffs by a single point to win the program's fourth national title. It was the closest race in the history of the event. Thirty-two teams from around the country gathered at the Voice of America Park in West Chester, Ohio, but only Middlebury returned home as champions.

Overcoming muddy conditions which Coach Aldrich called, "the most diffiuclt conditions we've ever run in," Alexandria Krieg '09 was the fastest Panther, as she came in 10th place (out of 279 participants) with a time of 23:19. Andrea Giddings '07 placed 25th and Erin Archard '07 crossed the finish line two seconds later in 29th place. With these fantastic finishes, all three runners were selected as All-Americans.

It was also announced at the NESCAC first-round game that the women's cross country team was named the Cross Country All-Academic Team of the Year by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Association.

Chris Heinrich

Eight members and two coaches of Middlebury women's cross country team were presented their '06 national championship rings during the first intermission of the men's hockey game against Williams. They are shown from left to right: (top row) Athletic Director Erin Quinn, Head Coach Terry Aldrich, Annie Sullivan '10, Alexandra Krieg '09, Emily Jacobs '09, Assistant Coach Nicole Wilkerson, (bottom row) Devyn Young '07, Claire Schultz '07, Makely Lyon '07, Andrea Giddings '07 and Erin Archard '07.

Men's squash second in Conroy Cup

The men's squash team competed at Nationals over the weekend at Yale University. The team, which holds club status, entered the Conroy Division as the 25th ranked team in the country.

The Panthers took care of Vanderbilt with ease, winning 9-0. Wesleyan was a tougher opponent, but Middlebury won 7-2. J.P. Sardi '09, the men's number one player came back to win in five sets after being down two games to one.

With these two wins, Middlebury reached the finals and faced Hobart, the number 26th ranked team. Hobart came away with a 6-3 victory.

Co-Captain Brandon Avrutin '06.5, Micah Wood '10 and Will Carroll '08 all had undefeated weekends.

It was little surprise fellow NESCAC school Trinity College won Nationals as they blanked Princeton 9-0. It was the ninth straight year they accomplished this. To date the Bantams have won 165 matches in a row.

Hosts come close but find no victory cigar

Jeff Patterson

Senior Tri-Captain Lindsay Brush is all smiles after her final run in the giant slalom at the 84th Middlebury Winter Carnival. Brush placed third.

By Anna Furney

Staff Writer

Andrew "Billy" Wagner's '09 win in the men's giant slalom and Lindsay Brush's '07 third place finish in the women's giant slalom on Saturday highlighted the Panther alpine ski team's third place finish in the 84th Middlebury Carnival. Over the course of the two-day race series, skiers were competing for the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association Championship title at the College's Snow Bowl.

While Dartmouth won the event, the Panthers finished only five points behind the University of Vermont (UVM). In each of the previous five carnivals, Middlebury had come in third, but by an average of 34.1 points behind UVM.

Middlebury was able to finish close to second thanks in part to the women's team's victory in the slalom. Tucker Burton '09 placed fourth, Kristen Poehling '08 finished sixth and Mattie Ford '09 took seventh place. The racers, who competed on the Snow Bowl's Ross trail, faced tricky conditions, which posed as imminent threats to the prospect of finishing. The final results proved that a challenging hill was little trouble for the experienced group.

The Middlebury men's alpine team saw its strongest male finisher in the slalom, Wagner, take home fourth place. Strong performances by Zeke Davisson '08, who came in sixth, and by Clayton Reed '10, who followed in seventh, solidified the overall team performance for the Panthers. Occupying the third spot for the cumulative team finishes for Friday's races, the men took their momentum into the giant slalom on Saturday.

Surrounded by family, friends, classmates and rival teams, the air surrounding the finish corral was electric for Saturday's giant slalom.

"Nothing is better than doing well on your home hill with our fans and supporters," said Brush. While the women's team's cumulative score for the races on Saturday only provided them with fourth place, Brush's individual third place finish made the Middlebury fans proud.

"I was extremely happy to finish off my carnival career with a podium in the GS," she said. "I was finally able to race in the Middlebury Carnival after my two knee injuries prevented me from competing the last two years and it made it all the better to finish off strongly. The weather was great, the fans were awesome and I was very happy with how everything turned out."

Dorothy Muirhead '08 finished ninth and Tara Martin '07 placed 17th in the same event. UVM won this portion of the Carnival, as they used fourth, fifth and 10th place finishes to edge Dartmouth.

Victory shone through on the men's side of the races on Saturday for Wagner. His first run left him in first position, and consumed with nerves, he found himself strategizing for the duty of securing the two-run event.

"After looking forward to this all week, I couldn't wait for it to be over so I would know what happened," he said. There was not much waiting

See Alpine skiers, page 20

Hockey had udder control

By Jeff Patterson

Sports Editor

"At forward, a sophomore from Lake Placid, New York, number 24 Jamie McKenna," said public address announcer Dave Sears as he finished introducing the Panthers' starting lineup for the opening game of the NESCAC Tournament versus Williams. And right on cue, *number 14* Jamie McKenna '09 skated out to the blue line to join his other blue clad line-mates.

With 10 more digits to his credit, McKenna played 10 times better than he has all year. He was on the puck all afternoon and on the ice for all five of the Panthers' goals as Middlebury manhandled a bigger Williams team 5-1. The Ephs average a full 1.46 inches taller in height per player, but as the saying goes: "The higher you are, the harder you fall."

With a goal and two assists, it would be fair to say McKenna played like Kent Hughes '92, Middlebury's all-time leader in points and assists, and the last Panther to wear 24.

"He was the Player of the Year in 1992 and an All-American," recalled Coach Bill Beaney. "He led us to the ECAC Championship back before we could go to the NCAAs."

Whether or not this year's team can go to the NCAAs will depend greatly on their play this upcoming weekend. They will meet Colby, a team they lost to 4-3 in overtime on Jan. 12, in the semifinals with aspirations to meet the winner of host Bowdoin-Amherst in the finals.

After three quick first period goals from Sam Driver '08 (his first of two in the game), Mickey Gilchrist '08 and Darwin Hunt '07, Williams Coach William Kangas pulled his goalie Marc Pulde seven minutes and 39 seconds in. His replacement, Rick Redman, momentarily stopped the bleeding, but the Ephs' season was already on life support.

Chris Heinrich

Darwin Hunt '07 hunts down a loose puck against Williams College.

A fluke goal, when the puck ricocheted off a Panther defender's skate, was the only offense Williams could muster. Doug Raeder '09 was spectacular in between the pipes, stopping 25 shots as he improved his perfect playoff record to 3-0.

Goals have been hard to come by for McKenna this season; He has only three to date, quite the opposite of his first-year campaign when he had 17, but he found the empty-net with 20 seconds remaining to put the game on ice.

Granted, Sears' miscue in calling the lineup was probably nothing more than a mistake, but make no mistake about this: Midd has to win two (road games) 4 the NESCAC Championship.

With a number 12 national ranking, it would be a lot easier to win the automatic bid that goes to the NESCAC champions than to sweat it out, waiting to see if they are given one of the two precious at-large bids.

In an effort to change their luck — the Panthers have not won at Bowdoin's Dayton Arena since Jan. 18, 2003 (meaning no one on the current team has ever won there) — the team will try staying at the Parkwood Inn in Brunswick, Maine.

"We aren't staying at the same place we stayed at before, because last

See Men lay, page 21

Divide the division?

By David Infante

Staff Writer

The division that houses the majority of Middlebury's athletic competition, with over 400 member schools, is under fire. Or so it would seem from recent national media reports on the prospects of creating a new NCAA subdivision, a Division IV, that would assuage the growing differences in size, resources and athletic-academic philosophies between Division III schools.

Ilhan Kim

President Ronald D. Liebowitz

Middlebury was pulled into the debate over a new subdivision earlier this month when President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz was quoted by *The New York Times* saying he doubted a move to a new Division IV would harm Middlebury's athletic program, at least from an admissions standpoint.

"For those [who] are pushing a re-divisioning, the feeling is that it would be good to have schools with similar philosophies about the place of academics and athletics in their missions, plus similar admissions policies, competing against one another," explained Liebowitz in an e-mail. "I want our students to be challenged in every venue possible — academics, athletics, the arts, and all creative endeavors — to the highest possible level, so long as we retain the balance between academics and our co-curricular program, including athletics."

The differences between Divisions III schools have led to disagreements over the athletic-academic balance — smaller NESCAC members support the division's limitations, while the larger members are unhappy with the constraints placed on recruiting practices and academic requirements. Division III schools are bound by restrictions that the other NCAA divisions are not, the most obvious of which is the prohibition on athletic scholarships. This restraint has traditionally acted as a check against sports dynasties in which one school reigns supreme, because no school can use financial might to assemble the finest high school athletic talent. The ideal, of course, is leveling the playing field in the division while at the same time encouraging strong student-athlete enrollment.

Jeff Patterson

Athletic Director Erin Quinn

However, the system has become increasingly inefficient at stemming the athletic dominance of a small group of schools. Certain

See No One Really, page 21

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room: Marika Ross
Who knows the successful swimmer better? page 23

game to watch
Women's Hockey vs. Hamilton, March 3 at 1:00

Women's Hockey:
Midd forced overtime vs. Plattsburgh, but couldn't deal the Cards a loss, page 22